FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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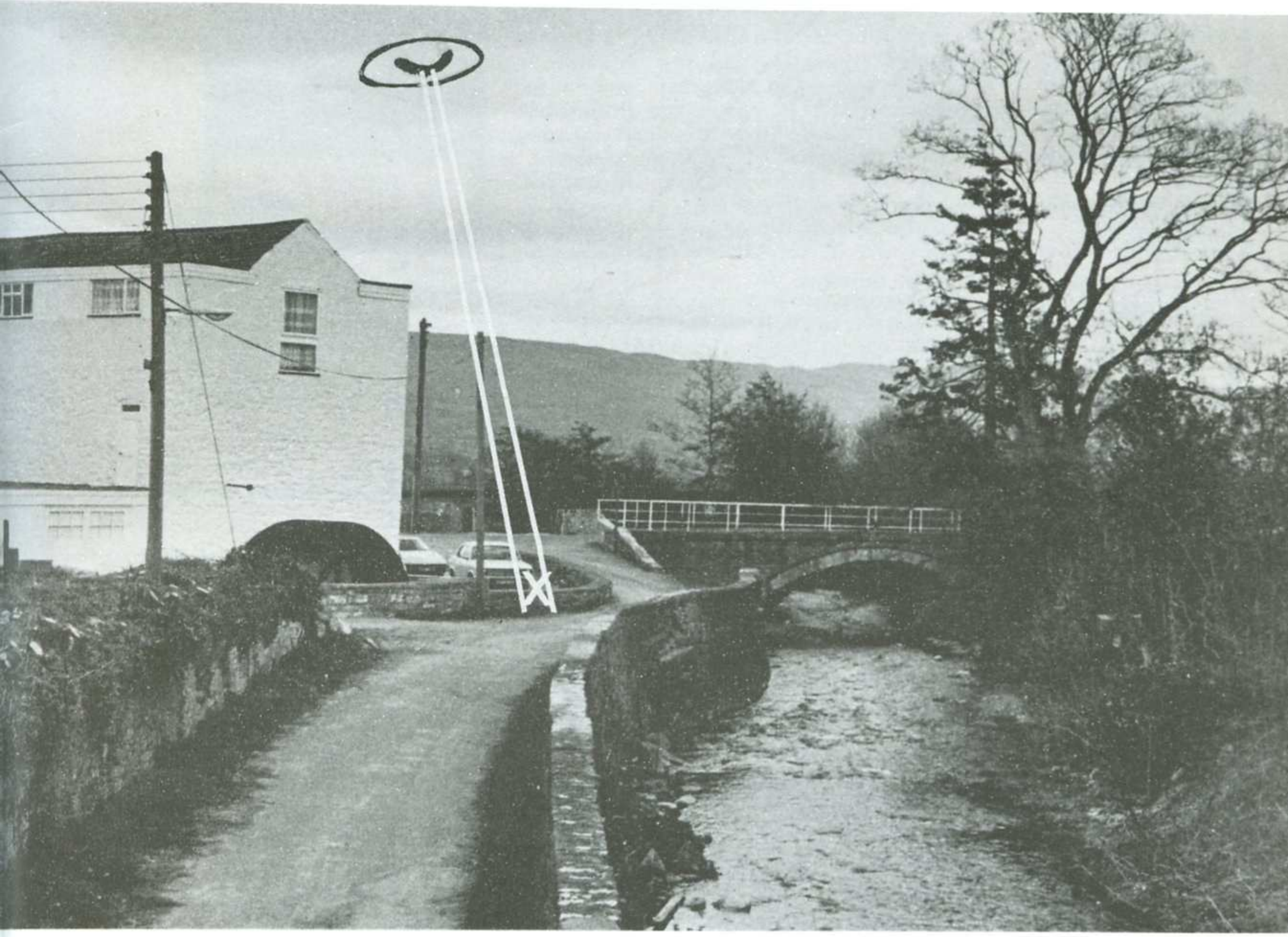

Photo courtesy of Janet & Colin Bord

Scene of a "repeater" witness's

ENCOUNTER IN CLWYD

See page 3

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

fsr

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Volume 25, No. 2
(published July 1979)

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For subscription details and address please see foot of page ii of cover

LABOUR OF LOVE

READERS will have observed that we have re-commenced the practice of indicating the period of the issue on the front cover of the magazine as from the last number to appear, namely Volume 25, No. 1 which, of course, was that for January-February 1979.

That we have been able to do this should not be taken as evidence of easy optimism, but rather as a sign that we are hopeful that we can return to our normal schedule before the end of the year. Indeed the last three numbers of the 1978 series were issued in a record time of three months, and the first issue of the 1979 series followed at a similar one-month interval. In this way half of the leeway has been made up and, as this leader is read, we trust that a somewhat similar interval between this current number and volume 25, No. 1 has brought us even nearer our goal.

It is possible that some of our newer readers have made the same mistake as a few readers have done in the past, and in assuming that because *Flying Saucer Review* is a well-turned-out publication, it comes from a big publishing house, with plush offices and a full-time staff. We reiterate that this is not the case; that the magazine has been produced for more than 24 years as a labour of love by four successive editors, each working purely on a spare-time, part-time basis, helped over considerable periods by devoted assistants. Indeed there were long periods when the late Waveney Girvan, and your present Editor, were forced to use commuting train journeys for a good deal of their editing. The goal has always been to maintain quality, both in content and in production, and at the same time to maintain the price of the magazine at a reasonable level. For this reason the work of those associated with the production of the magazine could well be described as a "labour of love."

It will be appreciated, therefore, that such a structure is for ever exposed to the ill winds that buffet it in the industrial field. The first three editors of FSR were relatively lucky in this respect, although Brinsley le Poer Treuch (now the Earl of Clancarty) lost an issue in 1959 through industrial strife in the printing trade, and Waveney Girvan, in his last few weeks, was worried to distraction by the effects of a postal workers' go-slow. Indeed this last upset, combined with the hiatus occasioned by Waveney's sudden and tragic death in October 1964, were the incidents which triggered the slide backwards from our normal schedules. Thereafter, whenever it appeared that the slide had been arrested, new problems arose to tease us, particularly on the printing side.

The biggest blow, however, was the disastrous postal strike of 1971; not only were we unable to send the magazine to our readers – most of whom had a postal subscription – but also there was no way in which we could receive fresh material from our correspondents abroad, or in which the material we did have could easily be transmitted to the printers. That situation lasted several weeks and thousands of small businesses which relied on the post went into the crusher; FSR was fortunate to survive although our subscription list suffered heavily.

More trouble followed in 1973-74 when, after changing to our present printers, a brand new firm, they were hit by a massive paper shortage – a world-wide problem – and then by the nightmarish three-day-week situation. From then on we were fortunate to be able to maintain issues although it was well-nigh impossible to claw our way back towards normal timing of the magazine, especially when illness – for example Gordon Creighton was unable to turn out any of his valuable translations for a long period – and sheer exhaustion took their toll. (Readers should be thankful that UFOIN grew so effectively under the guidance of Jenny Randles and her colleagues, and produced such a useful stream of valuable material.)

Now we are glad to say that, due to certain changes in circumstances, some of our "humps" have been surmounted and we are busily trying to make up our leeway, and to give our readers a more balanced "diet."

Let us close with the thought that if readers think we deserve those plush offices, and a full-time staff, they themselves hold the key for bringing that about. For a start they can help increase the size of our subscription list, not only by their own vigorous and permanent support, but also by ensuring they "Tell their friends about *Flying Saucer Review*." Only in that way can a labour of love become a work of professional pride.

INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

It is two-and-a-half years since there was an increase in the price of *Flying Saucer Review*, and the maintenance of the price during that time at 70 pence per issue, in spite of the rampant inflation was a remarkable achievement. That the price has been held for so long is due to the fact that increases in production costs have been offset by a welcome increase in the size of the subscription list.

Now, unfortunately, the position has been reached where costs are escalating, particularly in the realm of paper, envelopes and postage, and we have no alternative than to make an increase in the price of our magazine.

With effect from this issue the cover price will be 85 pence (£0.85). It is our wish, however, to re-introduce a two-tier price system, and there will be an advantage to annual subscribers who will be required to pay only £4.80 per annum.

Naturally this will mean a change in the US dollars price, a price further complicated by recent increases in the exchange value of the £ against the $. As from this issue the price will be US$1.90 per copy, with a subscription rate of US$11.00. The additional prices for airmail will for the time being remain unaltered.

THE INSTITUTE FOR UFO STUDIES

It was confirmed in *Flying Saucer Review* Volume 24, No. 6, that the Institute for UFO Studies had been formed and that a Constitution had been formally agreed. Since that time a good deal of progress has been made in the complicated business of setting up such a body. However, following legal consultation a number of ammendments have been recommended, but it may be stated that the drafting of the Constitution of the Institute is now in its final stage.

Appointment of the Trustees and Officers is imminent and, as stated in FSR Volume 24, No. 6, applications for membership are invited from those who consider they have made a useful or significant contribution to the investigation, research or study of the UFO phenomenon. Letters should be addressed to the Secretary, Jonathan M. Caplan, 67 Dorset House, Gloucester Place, London NW1, England.

IMPRESSIVE CORROBORATION FOR CE1 IN CLWYD

Janet & Colin Bord

A case specially investigated for UFOIN by the contributors in conjunction with Martin Roberts.

BROOKHOUSE MILL RESTAURANT is a mile south of Denbigh, beside the busy A525 Rhyl to Wrexham road, which runs north-west to south-east along the Vale of Clwyd in North Wales. Brookhouse Mill was originally built as a flour mill more than 300 years ago, as the huge iron water wheel, which is still in place beside the outer wall of the building, testifies. Today it has been converted to an attractive roadside restaurant of character. The chef is 28-year-old Keith Jones and it was on the night of 26 January 1979 that he had a close encounter with a UFO that has left a lasting impression with him. He had already started work for the evening when he had cause to return home (he lives just over the other side of the road from the restaurant) to fetch some herbs. Glancing at the clock, ne noted that the time was approaching 8.45 p.m. and hurried back to the restaurant for the busy evening period.

Just as he was about to enter the mill he became aware that the whole area around him was being illuminated in an unusual way. Looking up, he saw a craft flying low overhead. He estimated it was somewhere between 100 and 150 feet up. For a moment he assumed that it must be a jet aircraft from RAF Valley, Anglesey, as the residents of North Wales are well used to low level training jets flying through the valleys below hilltop height. The next moment he realised it could not be one of these. Although it was very low and moving extremely fast, it was practically noiseless; all that could be heard was the whoosh of a rush of air as it passed overhead. Its shape was an elongated oval as it banked in a curved flight path overhead, but the most striking feature came from the clear dome in the centre of the underside. Within this dome was a powerful light source, described by Keith as "a brilliant white, more brilliant than any light I've ever seen." The effect was like having a powerful torch shone directly into his eyes. The light source appeared to be revolving rapidly "like a lighthouse beacon," and gave a powerful flash of light at approximately one-second intervals. Because of the brilliance of the light and the darkness of the clear, frosty night, Keith could not see any structural details on the UFO. By the brilliant light it carried he could see its shape and described its' surface as an aluminium colour, although he thought it could have been darker than that, as the brilliance of the light would have given even a dark surface a "bright" appearance.

Witness Keith is a "repeater"

Keith was dazzled and fascinated as the strange craft swept overhead, but his next thought was to get a witness. So he dashed into the restaurant and called to his employer John Mace to come outside quickly. His foresight in obtaining an independent witness was prompted by an experience some eighteen months earlier, when a few miles further south, at Llanynys, he had seen a similar UFO, although not so dramatically close. On that occasion too he was alone and later when he told his friends that he had seen "a space craft" he had been laughed at, so this time he made sure he had a corroborative witness. When John Mace and a customer came outside, the UFO was about half a mile or more farther along the valley to the south-east. It had slowed its rapid flight and now presented an aerial display, hovering for a few moments at one point and then shooting rapidly across the sky to another position, where it would again hover for a time, and all the while the brilliant light revolved and flashed through the clear, starry, night sky. John Mace, who had previously treated the subject of UFOs with scepticism, was fascinated by the inexplicable airborne display, and the men stood for some ten or fifteen minutes watching the brilliant flashing light as it hovered and darted from one point in the sky to another, with movements "like a dragonfly over water."

After watching for nearly fifteen minutes and while the UFO was still in view, Keith Jones went back inside, first reporting the sighting to the police by telephone before resuming work. John Mace stayed outside a little longer and saw the light move off until it was lost in the distance.

Corroboration by Police Officers

But at the same time, unknown to the watchers, a police car driven by Constable Berwyn Jones (nineteen years in the police force) on a routine patrol had passed by the mill. Also in the car was Constable Neville Hughes (thirteen years in the force) and they too saw the brilliant flashing light pass across the sky. They got out of their car to watch as it travelled overhead and south-east down the valley towards Ruthin. Constable Huges remarked that the flashing light was noiseless and seemed to be low. Constable Jones thought the light was too bright and the speed too great for it to be an aircraft. The previous night

Constable Hughes had watched a UFO after a Denbigh family had reported a strange airborne light, and in October 1978 he and a police sergeant had watched an enigmatic light whilst they were patrolling the grounds of the North Wales Hospital at Denbigh.

After Keith Jones had reported his experience to the police, Constable Hughes quickly contacted him to check their sightings against each other. It wasn't long either before Keith had a phone call from an intelligence officer at RAF Valley, on Anglesey, who wanted a full report. The officer said he also had a form with about fifteen questions on it which, when completed, would be "sent up to London," and he then proceeded to ask Keith if within the vicinity of the sighting there was any water or waterfalls, waste land, or electric power lines in the area. There is a great deal of water in the Vale of Clwyd, and the Afon Ystrad still runs alongside the mill, as it did when the waters were used to drive the water wheel. There is a weir a few hundred yards upstream.

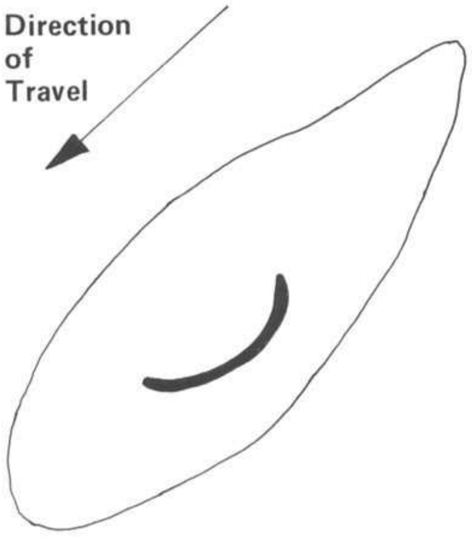
Other interesting experiences associated with witness and family

It may be of significance that shortly after last Christmas, Keith's five-year-old son Lee woke his parents in the early hours to say that he could see a "rainbow" outside his bedroom window. His parents, who had had a late night, were in no mood to listen to his tales and told him to return to bed. But they could hear him crying, and after a time Keith went to his room to ask him what was the matter. Lee described how he had been woken by lights coming through the curtains and had got out of his top bunk and opened the curtains. Outside he saw a silvery disc with a rainbow behind it, moving backwards and forwards across the garden and fields and over the stream which runs behind the house (the same one that runs by the mill). Lee was quite positive that what he saw had had no wings. By the time that Keith went in to see him there was nothing to be seen outside, of course. Later he learnt that other people had seen lights in the same place at about the same time.

One of our routine questions is to ask witnesses if they have experienced any psychic phenomenon in their lives. Keith could only recall one experience, which happened about ten years ago, It was in the early hours of the morning and he was a passenger in a car travelling from Chester to Manchester on the A56. He was half awake and half asleep when suddenly the driver slammed on the brakes. Keith jerked awake to see a figure in what might have been a duffle coat crossing the road into the path of the car. There was also an oncoming car, which made the situation more difficult, and as the car hit the figure the occupants felt the impact. The car skidded to a halt at the roadside and the two men got out, fully expectant of finding the nasty accident on their hands. The driver of the oncoming car had stopped too but there was no trace of the accident or its victim. All three men agreed that they had seen a figure knocked down, but althouth they searched the hedges and shone their car lights around, they could find no victim. This clearly sounds like another case of a ghost pedestrian run down by a car. There are a number of such cases in the annals of psychic research.

Unusual physical symptom associated with 1977 sighting?

At the conclusion of our interview with Keith Jones, as we all stood up to go, we were impressed by Keith's height and asked him as a matter of interest what it was. He was, he said, 6 feet 4 inches tall. A little while ago he had been 6 feet 1 inch, but



Sketch by Keith Jones of the underside of the UFO he saw at Brookhouse Mill, Denbigh, on 26 January 1979.

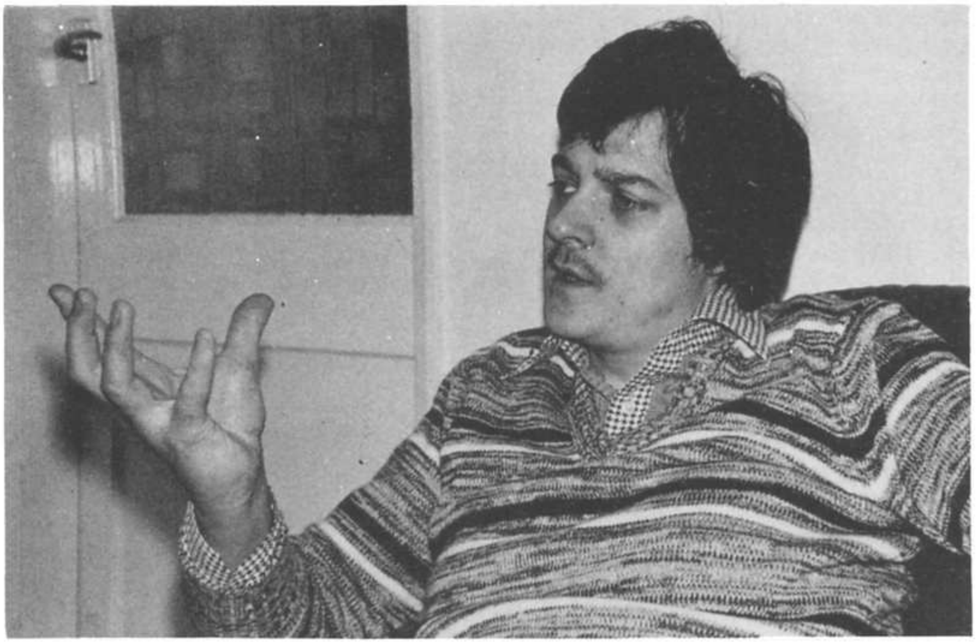


Photo copyright Janet and Colin Bord

Keith Jones gives details of his sighting

recently he had been growing some more. Since when had this happened, we asked. During the last eighteen months, said Keith. In fact since his first UFO sighting, we pointed out, and Keith laughingly agreed. Whether there is any connection between the sightings and the increase in height he has no idea, and had not thought to mention it to us. His wife Joyce confirmed that he had been shooting up recently, as she had had to let down his trouser turn-ups considerably.

Keith has read no books on UFOs and they are not a subject of conversation in the family. Certainly the matter had not been talked about before his son Lee saw the "rainbow" through his window.

The whole of this area of North Wales, and as far as Anglesey to the west, has for some time produced a steady stream of newspaper reports of lights in the sky, or solid craft seen in daylight, and a team of investigators reveal some interesting patterns. Are some families more likely to see UFOs than others? Is an increase in height a possible physical effect of a UFO sighting? What relation to energy sources do UFOs have? These are just some of the questions generated by the Denbigh sightings, questions to which further research might produce answers.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

View looking South of East at the sighting location. Keith Jones came along the track in the foreground to the Mill, on left. At the base of the Mill can be seen the mill wheel, and just to the right of this is the low wall over which he was climbing when he first noticed the UFO. (Spot marked 'X'.)

World round-up *of news and comment about recent sightings*

Kuwait
Huge UFO makes silent landing

We learn from the Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa, newspaper the *Rand Daily Mail* of November 14, 1978, in a UPI item entitled "Flying saucer drops in on the oil fields" that –

"Kuwait's first flying saucer came without sound, big as a jumbo jet, cylindrical, with a huge dome and flashing red light.

"After seven minutes in a Kuwaiti oilfield, it took off without a trace.

"That, at least, was the testimony of the seven oil-field technicians who said they saw it.

"The mysterious object reportedly landed about 150 km. from the capital, at Umm Alaish, causing temporary disruption of tellecommunications and the operations of an oil pumping station about 250 metres from the landing site.

"The seven technicians of the Kuwait Oil Company, including one American, said the flying saucer was the size of a jumbo jet. It was cylindrical in shape, with a huge dome and a flashing red light.

"To their astonishment, as soon as the object took off, the oil pumping station's equipment began working again.

United States of America/United Kingdom
Hynek attacks Lovell

The *Daily Mail* of March 27, 1979, carries an item under the signature of their New York correspondent, Nigel Nelson, with the headline *"Sir Bernard's being stupid – UFO expert"* –

"The world's most respected authority on UFOs accused Britain's top astronomer, Sir Bernard Lovell, of stupidity yesterday.

"Dr. Allen Hynek, president of America's Centre for UFO Studies said it was ridiculous for Jodrell Bank Director Sir Bernard to suggest that a UFO filmed over New Zealand last Christmas was nothing more than a burned-out meteorite.

"The UFO, tracked on radar and captured on film from a light aircraft by Australia's Channel 10 television network, has been carefully studied by 20 of America's top physicists and astronomers.

"Yesterday the scientists declared that the film was the first-ever verified footage of an unidentified flying object.

"Dr. Hynek went on to attack Sir Bernard for dismissing the object as just a meteorite. 'That was one of the more stupid explanations,' he said. 'It's completely untenable.

"This is scientific irresponsibility. He should examine the data before pontificating.' "

Italy
Security guard "captured" by 10 ft "spacemen"

The incredible story of Fortunato Zanfretta's two encounters with creatures, stated to be from outer space, was printed in *Reveille* on March 2, 1979. Fortunato described the creatures as –

" 'About 10ft tall with hairy green skin, yellow triangular eyes and red veins across the forehead. In place of a mouth there was what appeared to be a metallic chain or fence.'

"Fortunato was later questioned by medical experts during deep hypnosis.

"The 26-year-old Italian's astonishing ordeal began in the village of Torriglia, near Genoa.

He was patrolling after midnight when his car stopped mysteriously. He saw four lights and jumped from the car, gun in hand. 'Then I was hit from behind and whirled round and shone my flashlight and saw an enormous green creature.' he said later.

"That was the last thing he remembered until nearly two hours later when he was awakened by a blinding light and tremendous roar of a UFO blasting off.

"Leading medical hypnotist and physician Dr. Mauro Moretti said afterwards: 'I believe 90 per cent of what he said was the truth. You cannot invent things under hypnosis.'

"It was only three days after the hypnosis session that Fortunato had his second meeting with the unearthly visitors. He was driving to the same village when a strange force seized his car and took him to the place he had met the spaceman before.

"In a second hypnosis session he said he was again taken aboard a UFO and examined by 10 green creatures with triangular eyes.

"In his first session with the doctors he said the creature escorted him to a very large, triangular UFO with several portholes and a round or semi-circular base.

" 'He said there was brilliant light inside the UFO and it was very hot,'

Continued page iii of cover

ANOTHER CLOSE CONTACT ON RÉUNION - Part 1

Lieut - Colonel Lobet

Traumatic after-effects experienced by witness after encounter with UFO and occupants.
Translation from the French by Gordon Creighton

This extraordinary case occured on the slops of Le Calvaire, a hill some 300 metres outside the township of Petite-Ile near the southern coast of the island of Réunion, lying between Madagascar and Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean. Lt. Col Lobet's excellent and very detailed account was published by *Lumières dans la Nuit* No. 147 (August-September 1975). We are indebted to LDLN's Editorial Committee for permission to reproduce it now in full in *Flying Saucer Review.* — EDITOR

THE percipient in this case was Antoine Séverin, a 21-year-old resident of this French-speaking island, long a French colony and today one of the Territories of overseas France.

I— Statement by Antione Séverin of February 19, 1975

"During the night of February 11–12, 1975, I had a dream about *grapes*. Also, that same night, I dreamed (although I did not 'see' anything) that I was hearing a sort of *beep-beeping* noise, which seemed at times to be coming from very near, and at other times from very far away. It went on all that night.

"On the morning of February 12, while I was brushing my teeth, I could still hear the same sound, but now seemingly coming from very far away. Before I went off to work, I spoke about my 'grape' dream to my girl friend, Mauricette Leperlier. Then, during the course of that morning, I also talked about it to two of my work-mates, Marc Lauret and Guy Pothin. They said they had never had dreams about grapes. I wanted to talk to them about the other dream too — about the *beeping* noise — but I couldn't do it. I don't know why I was in such a nervy state. I was able to do my work, but there was this interference, because all the time I could still hear that same sound. I thought of going to see a doctor about it, but something stopped me. So this state of affairs lasted till Friday, February 14.

"On that day, Friday, February 14, at 12.05 p.m., I told the lady for whom I worked that I simply had to go. She was astonished, because it was just on closing time at the shop. But it might have happened at any time during that morning. The *beep-beep* noise was deafening. I dashed out, and ran along past the stadium, and then past the cemetery — my usual route. Meanwhile the sound was getting louder and louder. At times I slowed down to a walk, and then started running again. There was nobody else about. Then suddenly I felt myself stopped, as though held back by some supernatural force.

"By then I was close to the path leading off to my own cottage, and to my parents' cottage, but I was still on the main road. I felt as though my ear-drums were about to burst. I turned round slowly and got off the road, and went a distance of a few metres into the maize field. Then I felt a strange sort of heat, accompanied by a burning blast of air. I stood there, just rooted to the spot, as though paralyzed. I couldn't move a finger. It was then that I caught sight of a machine shaped like a large hat, or like a cup set on top of a saucer upside down.

"The object was intensely bright. It was of aluminium colour, and it was at a height of about 1m.50 from the ground. That is to say, it was stationary, and it was emitting the sound. Then I saw a ladder with three steps, which appeared from the under-part of the saucer. The ladder was inclined at an angle of about 45°, but did not touch the ground. Then a weird little man came out of the machine, in close-fitting clothes like the "Michelin man" and he too was all shining, just like the saucer. In his right hand he held something, also shining, about 30 cm long. On the ladder, he seemed to be quite free and easy in his movements, but as soon as he was on the ground his gait became different, clumsy. He walked with his feet together. A second little man came and joined him, and then a third. The first one was scratching the ground. The second one was holding a small bag, also brightly shining, but I did not see the first one put any earth into it. All three of the little fellows had antennae on their heads, one on each side. I had a profile view of them.

"At one point, I saw his antennae moving. At that same instant it really dawned on me what I was seeing. Then suddenly my gaze moved up to the top of the saucer, to the turret. And there, through one of the portholes, I saw the head of a fourth 'robot.' I think the third little man must meanwhile have given the alarm when he caught sight of me. Then I felt myself hurled on to my back by a powerful flash of light. I was able to see how the little men went up the ladder[2] again, faster than they had come down it. The ladder was drawn up, making a 'hydraulic' sort of sound. Then, immediately, the machine rose up

into the air, emitting a very loud whistle. I wasn't able to see in which direction it went off. And I don't know how long I lay there on the ground. Then I got up and rolled up my trousers and ran straight back here to my parents' cottage."

When questioned about his having lost his voice and lost his sight for some days after the occurrence, Antoine Séverin continued:-

"I don't remember now having lost my voice or having lost my sight. What I prefer to do this evening is to tell you my story, which is a true one, because I fear I may lose my voice and my sight again. Tomorrow, when it is light, I think I'll be able to take you to the spot where I saw the thing."

Six days later, on February 25, I interrogated him again. His replies were as follows:-

"I have, in actual fact, nothing to add to my previous statement, or to change in it. The object seen by me was like a woman's hat, or like half an egg placed on top of a saucer. It was the size of an ordinary car. Everything was shining, glittering...the machine, the people who came down out of it, and the instruments they were carrying. I greatly regret that I have been unable to show you the precise spot."

(In fact, on February 20, Séverin, firmly determined to show the spot where he had seen the UFO, had got into the Gendarmerie detachment's jeep,

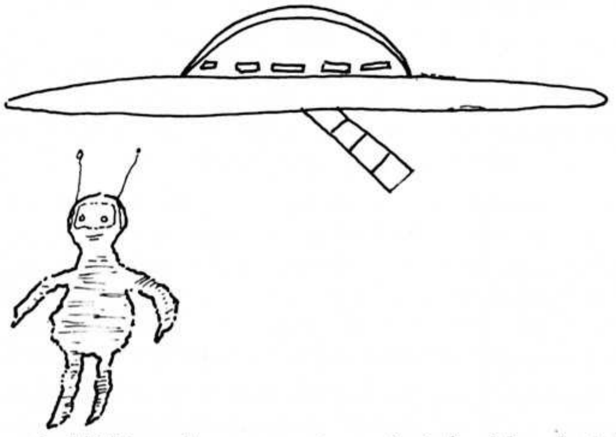


Figure 1: UFO and occupant, as sketched by Antoine Séverin.

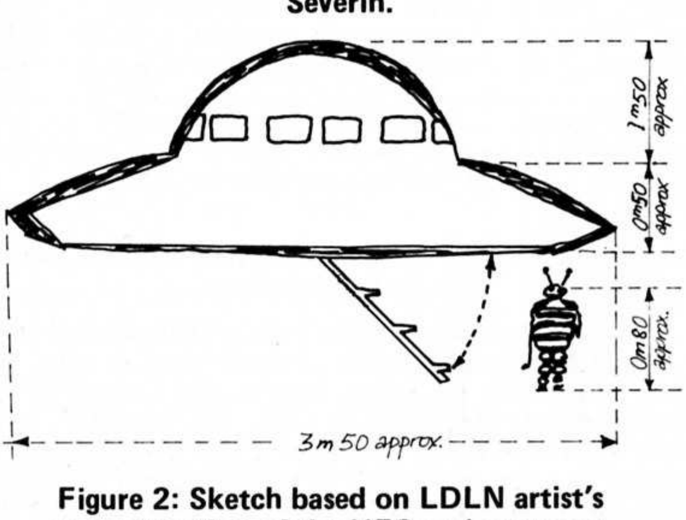
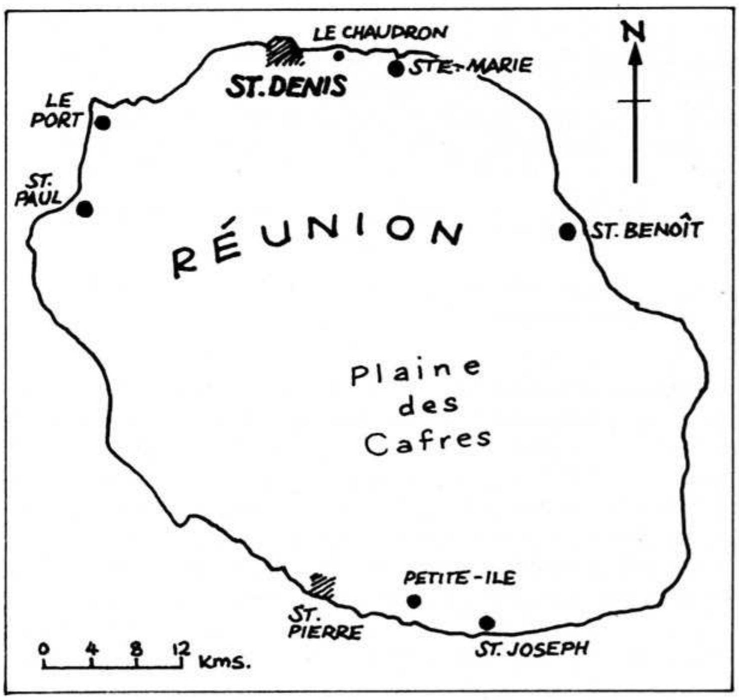


Figure 2: Sketch based on LDLN artist's reconstruction of the UFO and occupant



driven by the gendarme Cravero. Monsieur Maxime Séverin, the father, went along with his son. When they were on the dirt road which leads to the maize field, Antoine tapped the driver on the shoulder and indicated this field, which was the same one that we had seen on February 18. Antoine got out and, with his gaze fixed on the other end of the field, near a copse of trees, he began to take a few steps forward. Then he stopped suddenly,put his hands up to his ears, pressing them in very hard, and finally he began to sway, and fell to the ground. His pulse was faint, his hands were cold, and his eyes were turned upwards. We took him home at once and he only recovered partial consciousness about half an hour later. Séverin then explained to us that some inexplicable force had prevented him from approaching the precise spot where he had seen the unidentified craft.)

Séverin's statement continues:

"I am indeed still determined to go to the place, but every time I arrive there, I lose consciousness. Instantly, as soon as I enter the field, I hear far-off *beeping* sounds and am obliged to plug my ears. I assure you I don't do this on purpose. And then, every time, I am surprised when I come round and find myself stretched out on a bed as I never have any recollection of fainting.

I still feel weak. One day, though, I think I shall regain my lucidity completely and my physical strength, and that this will enable me to remain on an even keel. Then I'll be able to pinpoint the exact spot where I saw the UFO."

In reply to further questioning:-

"No, I've never, in my whole life, opened any magazine or science fiction book showing such things as flying saucers or rockets. And I have never heard anybody mention a flying saucer that landed on the Plaine des Cafres.[3]

"Tomorrow, or the day after, I am due to go to Saint Pierre to see a doctor who is to come from the Saint Paul Psychiatric Hospital. In any event, I don't

consider myself to be mentally ill. I have had a shock and an upset, and this has weakened me. Sometimes my head swims and I fall asleep on my feet. Then I realize that somebody is wiping my face with a handkerchief, and then everything is normal once more."

II — Declaration of the Mother, Mme. Marie-Rita Séverin

This is a précis of statement made on February 22 to the Gendarmerie:

"On February 14, 1975, when I got home at about 4.30 p.m., I found my 21-year-old son Antoine sitting on a bench in the kitchen. He had his elbows on his knees, his head in his hands, and was weeping. I asked him if he had a headache, and he replied that he had. I asked him if somebody had been hitting him, or if he had had an accident, or fallen down. His reply was negative, and then he went on to add that if he were to tell what he had seen, nobody would believe him. I then perceived that he was frightened. He began to cry out and to weep. I managed to get him to talk. Then he told me the story which he has repeated several times since then.

"So then he talked about the 'big shining globe' shaped like a woman's bonnet (like this hat of mine, that is to say, round) and then about the three little portly men, the first one with an object in his hand and the second with a sort of bag, and the third one who seemed to be carrying nothing. Antoine lay stretched out on his back... (etc.)."

"It took a very long time for Antoine to explain to us what it was that he had seen. He made lots of gestures, as though outlining what he had seen. And he was trembling. His gaze became fixed, and then gradually his voice faded away. The neighbours came in and they carried him to my bedroom. We gave him some rosemary tea to drink. A bit later we sent for the doctor from Petite Ile. The doctor told me my son had received a "bad shock", but went on to say that before long Antoine would have his voice and his sight again.

"Antoine understood quite well however what was said to him. He even drew a sketch of the machine, on a page in the dictionary (see Figure 1).

He was still unable to speak, and the slightest noise made him start. I was dreadfully worried. However, another doctor told us not to let ourselves be discouraged..

"On Wednesday, February 19 (five days after the encounter), at about 8.00 p.m., Antoine raised his arms and gave a shout. And then he exclaimed: 'Mum!' Then he rubbed his hands over his eyes and said that he could see again. That was the night when the Gendarmes, whom we had notified about the affair, came again and took his statement.

"My son is still in a weak state, He has been examined by a psychiatrist doctor at Saint-Paul, who is due to see him again on Wednesday or Thursday at Saint-Pierre. He has never been considered to be mentally ill. I have never considered my son to be mad. Antoine is a boy who is sound in body and mind. He has never had any sort of treatment for his head.

"He is normally perfectly well balanced. He doesn't drink, and he doesn't smoke. He doesn't go to the cinemas, he doesn't read much, and he didn't know about the flying saucer they said was seen on the Plaine des Cafres. He doesn't tell lies. I instantly believed what he said. We have talked about it a lot in the family, but we are all quite convinced that my son really did see the machine, which he always describes in exactly the same fashion.

"Twice,[4] since he recovered his sight, he has been back to the place to show the precise spot where he saw the thing. Each time he has fainted when he came near the place. No member of my family has ever been under treatment for mental trouble."

III — Statement made by Antoine's Girl Friend

The follwoing statement was made by Marie-Mauricette Leperlier, born November 11, 1959:

"I am living with Antoine Severin, my future husband. We are to be married soon. He is a steady sober boy, he does not drink or smoke, and never gives any trouble to anybody.

"On February 14, 1975, I thought it strange that Antoine had not come home at 1.00 p.m. My fiancé always goes in to see his parents before having lunch, so I went over to their cottage, and found him there, stretched out on the bed. He was pale, sweating heavily, and would not say a single word. I thought that maybe he had a touch of fever, so I left him to sleep. Then, at about 3.00 p.m. I saw that he was crying. I asked him why he was depressed. He explained to me that he had seen a machine...etc., and three little men, one carrying an instrument that he was sticking into the ground, and the third one still on a little ladder with three steps. etc., etc."

The declarant confirms the statement of the Mother to the effect that Antoine reads little. Adds that he does not take drugs, and that he is not a boy of bad reputation. States that he lost the ability to speak from about 7.00 p.m. on February 14 until 9.00 p.m. on February 19. She continues:

"Antoine always wears a hat. I don't think he can have been the victim of sunstroke [*it was summer at that time on Réunion* — ED] He has never had any illness. Just a bit of sinusitis occasionally. I truly and sincerely believe that he received a shock, and I think that he genuinely saw an object. I must point out that on February 12 he had had a dream, when he saw grapes, which he understood meant *misfortune*. He talked to me about it on the 13th, and asked me whether I had ever had a dream like that."

IV — Statement by Mme. Marie-Madeleine Leveneur, Aged 49, Neighbour

"I know Antoine Séverin very well indeed. I have watched him grow up. We are neighbours. I believe what he says. He is a sober, serious, well-balanced lad, hard-working. He doesn't drink or smoke. I have never seen him reading any book showing pictures of strange objects or things like that. He is not illiterate, but he scarcely ever reads.

"Even when he was temporarily blind, he was

able to draw not only the machine he had seen, but also a plan of the spot. This was how I was, I think, the first person to go out there, at about 10.00 a.m. the next morning, Saturday, February 15, 1975. However the place looked to me as though it had been badly trampled. We followed some footprints leading towards the end of a small uncultivated field where there were still a few stubs of maize. The footprints ended and, about 20 metres further on, we found three holes, irregular in shape because of the weak consistency of the soil there. These holes were of the size of basins. They formed a triangle measuring one metre on each side."

Guided by this witness, the investigators were in fact taken to the field, where their main investigation was carried on. In the north-western corner of the field, Mme Laveneur, accompanied by her two daughters, managed after some difficulty to locate the three holes which she had seen. Forming an isosceles triangle measuring one metre to the side, the holes are not very clearly defined owing to the friable nature of the soil, and they can easily be confused with other holes the same size (like a bowl or basin some two or three centimetres deep, very wide-mouthed). These other hollows, of which there are a great many scattered over a large area, look as though they have been caused by birds in search of food. The attempt to find any other marks in the field was furthermore made all the harder because the site had been greatly trampled by human feet, especially on February 15 and 16. (Tests made for radioactivity at the site were negative.)

"I don't think we are mistaken about the spot. So far, Antoine hasn't been able to get right to the place. First with you, then with me today, he has tried, with lots of will and courage, to get there and to walk about in the field, and each time he has been knocked out by an inexplicable sort of collapse. I have had to take him, unconscious, to my place, where he has remained, both times, stretched out for a couple of hours, breathing feebly. In my opinion this lad is still in a state of shock. We neighbours take a serious view of this business. I must admit that we are all scared, and that we avoid going near the field."

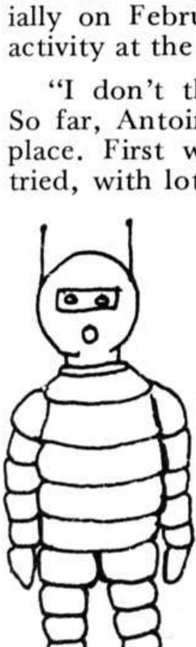
V – Statement by Mme. Ah-Kouen, shopkeeper, employer of Antoine Séverin

"Antoine Séverin has been employed by me in my shop for the last six months, and he also does deliveries by van. This lad is very steady, he does not drink or smoke, and gives no trouble to anybody. His work is totally satisfactory. Knowing this young man, I do not think he would invent a story to draw attention to himself. It is difficult to express an opinion, but personally I think that his statements ought to be taken seriously."

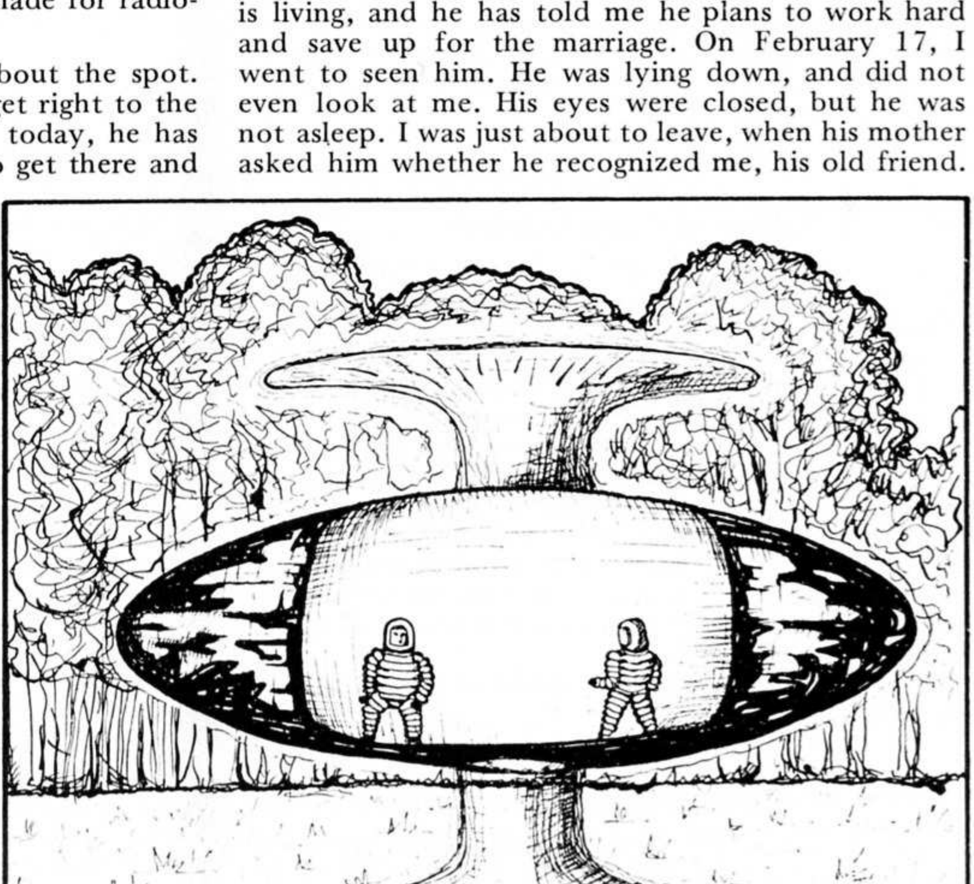
VI – Statement by Marc-Joseph Lauret, aged 56, work-mate of Severin

He gave the same sort of report as the employer.

"This lad Antoine Séverin has a good name everywhere in the Petite Ile community, and there has never been the slightest talk about him. I know he wants to get married soon to the girl with whom he is living, and he has told me he plans to work hard and save up for the marriage. On February 17, I went to seen him. He was lying down, and did not even look at me. His eyes were closed, but he was not asleep. I was just about to leave, when his mother asked him whether he recognized me, his old friend.



LEFT: Humanoid as drawn by LDLN investigators based on witness's description of the 1975 encounter. Compare with the entities in the 1968 Plaine des Cafres encounter shown on the right.



RIGHT: Sketch of the UFO and "Force fields" with occupants, reported in July 1968 in Réunion by Luce Fontaine who estimated the height of the entities at "perhaps a little less than one metre." Reproduced from *Flying Saucer Review* Vol. 15, No. 1.

and then signalled to me with his right hand to indicate *yes*. He still didn't speak. His eyes were big and round, staring fixedly, not moving. Still making signs with his right hand, he touched his forehead several times, then showed me three fingers. I felt that he was indicating that he had seen three beings.

"In my opinion we can rule right out any idea that his imagination could have been triggered off by some book he had read. Séverin never reads. It was hot at 1.00 o'clock in the afternoon, but he was wearing a hat and I don't think he got sunstroke. In my opinion, his statements can be taken seriously, although I must say that I myself find it very difficult indeed to believe in such a thing."

VII – Statement by Guy Pothin, aged 20, another work-mate

This confirms the depositions of the two previous Declarants:

"I went to see Séverin on Febuary 17. He was lying with his eyes wide open, staring, his eyelids motionless. His mother asked him if he knew me. He nodded, and tried to pronounce my name, Guy, but no sound came from his mouth. I found him to be in a state of great shock, his eyes were red, and he just lay there staring into the void. I remember that, on February 14, when he left the self-service store, he was wearing a hat, so I don't think he can have caught a sunstroke. In my opinion, this affair has got to be taken seriously. I don't think he is doing it just to get attention. He hasn't made all this up. He definitely saw something, but what we still don't know is – *what?*"

VIII – Statement by Dr. Michel Tschupp, of the Faculty of Lyons University

"I, the undersigned, certify that on February 14, 1975, I examined Monsieur Antoine Séverin, domiciled at Petite Ile, Réunion, who declared to me that he had been the victim of a "weird" phenomenon.

"In the course of my examination of him, I found him to be in a state of extreme exhaustion and prostration, with anxiety, partial loss of the faculty of speech, and staring eyes. The condition seems to me to involve a crisis of a pithiatic nature, produced in the course of some intense emotional shock. What the latter may have been it is difficult to say, but it was real, for the patient had previously shown no symptoms whether of a neurological or a psychiatric nature.

"The present certificate is issued to the Gendarmerie at their request."

IX – Biographical details of Antoine Séverin

Aged 21 (in 1975). Employed as a driver and shop assistant. Unmarried, residing at 26, Rue François-Hoareau, Petite Ile, Island of Réunion.

Of robust constitution. Has never suffered from any serious illness. Well balanced mentally. Quiet nature, and makes an impression of openness and honesty. Neatly dressed. Still at home, and spends much of his leisure time at home with his parents. Anxious to get on. Recently acquired a cottage, which he is preparing with a view to his marriage. Has no car. No inclinations towards reading or cinema. Generally well liked by those around him. Friendly and obliging, loyal. Religion: is a believer, but infrequent church-goer. Sexual life: normal. Can read and write, intermediate school level. Attended Saint-Joseph agricultural school. Affectionate relations with his parents and brothers and sisters. The family: father, aged 55, farm worker; mother, aged 49, no profession; sisters, Anesie, 26, married, two children; Lisiane, 16, school-girl; brothers, Guilaine, 17, Joseph, 11, schoolboy.

All these people are well-known locally. No member of this family is known to be simple-minded or to have shown signs of mental instability.

* * * * *

[*In part 2 of this article, which will be published in FSR Volume 25, No. 3, Colonel Lobet presents the gist of the detailed Gendarmerie reports on the Le Calvaire case together with summaries of what could be corroborating UFO reports, and his conclusions. It is also proposed to published comments by Fernand Lagarde of the LDLN team, plus additional information which he has received from Reunion – ED.*]

* * * * *

References (By translator)

1. This feature of the *beep-beep* has been reported in a number of cases, the best known being perhaps that of Betty and Barney Hill. (See John G. Fuller: *The Interrupted Journey*, Dial Press, N. Y., 1966.)
2. This seems to me reminiscept of the Brush Creek Visitations reported by Coral Lorenzen. (See *The Humanoids*, p. 146, "UFO Occupants in the United States."
3. See *Contact Casualty on Réunion*, in FSR Vol. 15, No. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1969). The event took place at 9.00 a.m. on July 31, 1968, when Luce Fontaine, a 31-year-old farmer, found himself 25 metres or so from a hovering craft containing two little "Michelin" types whom he described as perhaps a little less than 1 metre in height. Compare Antoine Séverin's description of the UFO's departure with the account given 6½ years before by Luce Fontaine:-
   "*...There was a flash, as strong as the electric arc of a welding machine. Everything went white around me. A powerful head was given off and then as it were a sort of blast of wind, and a few seconds later there was nothing there anymore.*"
   Incidentally, our title "Contact *Casualty* on Reunion" had been selected because the first reports received said that Luce Fontaine had received a very severe amount of radiation, and had been flown to Paris for treatment at the Curie Foundation. However, as Aimé Michel was subsequently able to inform us, this was only a rumour. Monsieur Fontaine had indeed been found to be suffering from radiation, but only to a slight degree.
4. Although the French text does not seem very clear on this point. Lt. Col. Lobet states in his Conclusions [*these will appear in Part 2 – ED*] that Séverin was taken to the spot *three* times and collapsed there *three* times.

THE TOURIST THEORY

OR .... WHY THEY ARE HERE

R. DeLillo & R. H. Marx

An engaging look at the Extraterrestrial Intelligence theory, and an optimistic attempt to answer the question of UFO motivation. The authors are Australian researchers who are associated with the excellent Sydney group headed by W. C. Chalker, who himself has contributed to FSR on a number of occasions. Mr. DeLillo is a physicist and Mr. Marx is a professional writer.

This is the other side of the coin from that seen by Professor P. Guérin (see the last issue of *Flying Saucer Review)*; a clever exposition of what we once saw fit to label the "Nuts and Bolts" idea, or wish — an appellation that has stuck. EDITOR

I – THE MYTH OF SUPER-RATIONALITY

ONE of the greatest puzzles confronting ufologists who support the ETI (Extraterrestrial Intelligence) hypothesis is UFO motivation. Why are they here? Why do they so often act so trivially, so meaninglessly? What kind of superior rational being repeatedly buzzes cars, examines trees, lands in remote fields, takes samples of the most common flora, fauna and minerals over and over again, and performs all the rest of their absurd actions. What can they mean?

So frustrating — so meaningless — does their behaviour appear to be that a giant swing has developed against the ETI hypothesis. In its place, theories proposing UFOs as Psychic projections, hoaxing interdimensional or time-travelling entities, even Satanic forces of evil have been offered.

We think it is time to sweep aside these uncertain theories and propose a better foundation and a more reasonable approach to the study of the UFO phenomena.

However, in order to do this we must first examine and consider a much more flexible approach in dealing with UFO motivation.

Hynek has said that the problem with the UFO question is that even Science Fiction has not suggested a truly sound rationale for their behaviour.

This was true.

For two main reasons.

First, like the present UFO theories, SF has always developed elaborate plots which revolve around one premise. **They are here because...** UFO theorists claim a single motivation which they then have to twist and turn to ensure it fits the facts. Why just one reason? Why not fifty?

Secondly, and most crucially, SF has held on to a literary cliché: ufonauts must be super-rational, that is, infinitely wiser and more rational than we are. (Perhaps this is the reason theorists assume they must do things for just one reason, lacking our complexity.) It is what we shall call the "Mr. Spock" syndrome.

To begin, let us define, or at last describe *super-rationality*. It is a concept which assumes that aliens rarely, if ever, think irrationally or emotionally. Rather than feel and react (as we do), they coolly respond, deduce and conclude. While an exaggeration for clarity, it gives the basic idea.

At the outset we must face the primary problem which created the "Mr. Spock" myth; we are so afraid of giving the ufonauts human motives and attributes that we go to the opposite extreme. "They can't be like us, so they must be super-intelligent and super -logical" is the reaction. But attributing super-rationality to aliens is absurd; we do not even know if it exists except in machines.

After all, this refusal to admit to similarities prevented ufologists accepting the humanoid form of alien. The attitude was that since they looked so much like us, they had to be illusions or distortions of reality by witnesses who wanted the aliens to look like us — if only subconsciously. This is the same tired thinking which expects aliens to behave and think differently from us and be morally wiser. It is ironic that critics of ETI should argue this way. On the one hand they day that the ufonauts are acting irrationally, so much so that we cannot understand them. Then the same critics contend that this irrationality means that UFOs must be a product of our own minds, or at least represent our own race returning as time travellers.

The authors want to reverse this reasoning. We know the phenomenon is real — we have photos, radar returns and magnetic readings to prove it. Perhaps we can understand the puzzle by comparing it with human motivation and see if it tallies.

Biologists have shown how useful the humanoid form is. It may turn out to be one of the best body structures for technological beings, and Nature may have used it as a model throughout the universe. Perhaps the human mind, with variations, may prove to be an equally good model. As much as we rightly mistrust emotions, which are at the heart of irrational thought, they serve many useful and essential purposes. Emotions trigger a whole series of feelings from love to hate, from fear for fight to sex for reproduction, and arise out of basic primaeval

instincts. So why have we avoided giving them to ufonauts?

We have fallen into an old trap; that is, "only humans should behave like humans." Until recently we viewed the rest of the animal kingdom in the same way. Now modern research has shown how similar the behaviour of other animals is to ours – or should we say how similar our behaviour is to theirs. The whale, the dolphin and the primates were once thought to be dumb brutes of interesting behaviour but with low "IQs". Lately, however, we have found out how humanlike their behaviour is. Dolphins use an "advanced" complex language still only partly translated; chimpanzees have been taught to read and recognise written language, and have created new words, sentences have even *lied*. Apes display greed, feel guilt, grovel for food and even prostitute themselves. Birds have highly-developed navigational abilities, concepts of territorial ownership and sophisticated reactions to prey. And on and on. Animals do behave like humans. Why not intelligent alien beings?

Pursuing this more deeply we put the question: would a "flesh and blood" being which has evolved *naturally* (that is without genetic engineering) be truly super-rational and emotionless, even if it has developed an advanced technological society?

While the authors realise the vagueness of this question, we want to make a few points for the record.

For technology to develop there must be specialisation of tasks in a co-operative framework. In other words one must have a society, a group consciousness. Therefore the individual must be free to use various skills, yet be subordinate to the group direction. Consequently, he has to have a sense of loyalty, or a sense of duty, or a need to co-operate to function as part of the group. And since individuals have different levels of ability and skills, something must bind individuals into a group, either a higher outside power or an internal sense of sacrifice.

This is why we emphasised the natural evolution of any such being. Nature needs binding forces. And such forces must be stronger than mere reason. Why? Because individual beings have varying abilities to reason and by their very specialisation different viewpoints from which to reason.

Hence the desirability of emotion arises at the start.

Even Mr. Spock had a strong sense of duty, acceptance of hard work and a deep loyalty and friendship towards his superior, the Captain.

A being would have a number of basic biological functions, i.e. obtaining energy, ridding itself of wastes, and reproduction. In addition, it should have an instinct for self-preservation, possibly a sense of pleasantness and/or comfort and at least one of the five senses. These would be the non-rational needs of his organism.

Already we can see a complex being taking shape, not a mere thinking machine. If we add a humanoid shape with our kind of movement, our relative eyesight level and thus viewpoint and tactile sensation; a pattern begins to emerge. All these factors limit a being and its thinking, and must influence its rational thought processes if only by its subjective experience. These automatic, non-rational, instinctual behaviour patterns necessary for the organism's survival develop in the rational being into what we call emotions. This argument is further strengthened by the fact that even human emotions orignate in the oldest parts of our brain and predate our self-conscious awareness.

Further, add the needs of a technological society and our similarities grow; the need for group response, the time needed to learn specialised skills, the co-ordination of those skills, a political system to organise the various individuals and groups within the overall population, an economic system, organisational ability itself, etc. We are sure the list could be greatly widened from the communication needs such as language to the nurturing instinct.

The authors hasten to say that we do not believe that alien humanoids will respond and act exactly like we do, or possess every behaviour pattern or instict that we have. Rather we submit that there will be a basis for some common modes of behaviour and therefore thinking.

Besides expecting aliens to be super-rational, two other errors are commonly made in attributing heightened rationality to aliens.

First, we assume automatically that there must be a link between advanced technical beings and "advanced evolution." It is generally believed that the higher one is on the evolutionary ladder the more rational one's thought processes become, and since ufonauts are surely more advanced technically, they must be fantastically more advanced rationally and possess little of those emotions which bedevil us.

Put so baldly the error becomes obvious. Mankind's very hostility to itself contradicts this reasoning. This was the kind of reasoning that the white man took into Africa and Asia a century ago. And the Spaniards into South America with the Conquistadors. And the Nazis into the rest of Europe in our time. Were those technically advanced societies more highly evolved? Hardly. Superior science does not equal superior rationality or wisdom, though this is a stubborn premise which still haunts mankind.

The second error in thinking is as emotional as the first, but much more human and appealing. Basically, it comes down to the argument that because they are so advanced scientifically, they would already have passed through the atomic age we are presently in. And because they did pass through it they had to have found a way to avoid total nuclear war. Hence they have to be more reasonable, thus more rational than we are. From this premise the step to super-rationality follows easily.

Attractive as this thinking is, it really begs the question. To begin with, we may not have a nuclear war; or if we do, we may survive it. Or perhaps it may be a necessary step in our evolution.

Moreover, there is no direct link between higher intelligence and emotional thinking. On our Earth the dolphin, the whale and the chimpanzee have relatively high intelligence, yet they do not war on their own species. ETIs may simply have not developed so much aggression in general, or against itself in particular. Without trying to belabour the

point, we should remember that on Earth only human beings, bees and ants are *so built as to* war on their own species, yet non-rational emnotional thought is universal.

Now that we have examined man's distorted thinking vis-a-vis the 'Mr. Spock' syndrome, and we have seen that super-rationality:

(a) is a misconception on our part,
(b) is not exhibited in Nature, and
(c) may not even exist in Nature for Nature needs irrational binding forces;

let us look at the UFO phenomenon.

Here we all agree something is going on which baffles our sense of understanding. Can we evaluate it?

Do UFOs exhibit the 'Mr. Spock' syndrome?

Clearly the answer is no. So clearly in fact that, as stated earlier, many ufologists have surrendered the ETI hypothesis.

What then is their behaviour?

The initial surprise is the number of cases indicating that they have a sense of humour. For example, small beings are seen near a ship, a human being approaches and does something that provokes amusement in the ufonauts. Good examples are in the Latin American case where the aliens found the witness's smoking absurd [1] and laughed when he explained it. In another, more macabre case, an alien shot a paralysing ray at a witness and then laughed at him. [2] Though this and other examples may seem sadistic to us, it might be good to remember how much of our humour centres around slipping on banana skins, or the like.

Humour, as any comedian or psychologist will tell you, results from the discrepancy between our expectations and the reality, i.e. between our emotions (convictions, pretensions, vanities, etc.) and the true world. Though humour requires thought, it requires the tension between thought and emotions to be triggered.

As well as humour numerous cases involving hoaxes or ridiculous mis-statements abound. True, most have dealt with the more questionable contactee cases. But it also applies to even the very best documented cases, such as the CIA contact case in 1959 in which a CIA agent at Langley, Virginia, CIA Headquarters, supposedly made contact with a UFO alien. Asking for proof the others were directed to a window where they a saw a UFO hovering outside. And yet the information conveyed via the agent who was in a trance was nonsense. [3]

Not only are humour and hoaxes evidence that at least some of the ufonauts have emotions and can react like us, but also it suggests more. "Sadistic" humor and hoaxes indicate a strong sense of self worth in the aliens. They are very aware of the difference between us and them, and feel very superior. This may seem obvious but it means that they have well developed egos, and it argues for a complex emotional life.

Going beyond humour we can see many suggestions of play in their behaviour. The way they chase cars, buzz planes and play tag with Air Force jets and lift cars and animals off the ground are some common examples. The shutting down of electrical systems, playing hide-and-seek with radar by letting themselves be periodically detected, disappearing and then reappearing again, and the Coyne helicopter incident, [4] demonstrate a more sophisticated sense of play. The harassing of military and civilian air bases (like sitting on the runway until all hell breaks loose), the "displays" they put on with their lights and aerial acrobatics – even though they could fly almost unnoticed – and even the more bizarre contactee cases involving messages saying that the investigators will find no proof of their visit, and the already-mentioned flashes of humour, all seem to indicate, in an endless stream, a play-oriented mentality. There was even a case in South America in which three aliens were seen playing "ball" with huge rocks much like the cavorting of our men on the moon. [5] And why not? When one thinks about it, play is an integral part of the learning process of animals on Earth (mammals). It is an emotional and "fun" method of absorbing information and the main, non-formal way of learning.

Other characteristics can bee seen. Curiosity for one. In the Betty and Barney Hill case the reaction of the ufonauts in discovering Barney's false teeth was dramatic.[6] While curiosity is related to rationality, it is an instinctive reaction which triggers the desire to understand. Abductions and contactee cases tell of compassion and kindness in alien behaviour. Fear of men, or at least of too close a contact with them, is repeatedly demonstrated; how often do they see a man approaching and rush back into their craft and take off, even when the witness is a defenceless child? In some of the abductions, cases of anger, impatience and irritation have also been recorded.

Even hostility and destructiveness have been displayed – sometimes quite deliberate, even calculated. Note the number of possible UFO-caused Air Force plane crashes, including the F-89 jet over the US-Canadian border in 1953 which merged with a UFO on a radar scope and vanished. [7] Or the planned unprovoked attack on a Brazilian army border post, [8] or the wanton destruction of an African village. [9] And surely power blackouts, if UFO related, can be very dangerous for hospital patients, traffic, etc. Occasionally, direct attacks on people have been reported – from immobilising with ray guns to capturing for examination and leaving permanent scars on their victims' psyches.

Taken altogether, the sum of these actions do not suggest a super-rational creature. Rational to be sure, but with minds linked to strong emotions. No doubt comparisons with humans would show a different scale of emotions. For instance it is inconceivable that humans could be so restrained for so long a period on a foregin planet were we so clearly able to dominate it. Though intentional and unintentional lapses of discipline occur (as shown above) humans, we believe, would be far more aggressive, exploitive and destructive. Ufonauts are much more controlled – whether from self-restraint or from an outside source. In addition, the ufonauts seem to operate on a different time scale. Human patience, in merely observing a foreign planet, would have been exhausted years ago. Decades and centuries of

waiting are not the way Earthlings are conditioned.

One final, more hopeful note. The humanoids seem to lack our sense of greed. Certainly man, in their place, would have begun to exploit us more than they have done. Yes, they have taken water, some animals, plants and mineral samples, but really very little. One finds it hard to believe that even with the best of motives, some humans would not turn "criminal" and begin to exploit the planet much more. Somehow we are off limits to the ufonauts; that is, generally we are left alone and are not molested, *we are protected*. Like the great game reserves in Africa, strict laws must exist to prevent interference. Incidents do occur, but they are rare — much rarer than poachers in Africa. Which brings the authors to the key of our argument. We have finished examining the door and the lock, let's find the key to open it.

* * * * *

II—THE NATURE RESERVE HYPOTHESIS

LET'S assume they are tourists.

"All right, so what?" the reader may ask. "So you've established that ufonauts are probably partly emotional (that is partly non-rational). What does that prove?

It means this: Just as various aliens may have different reasons for coming here, so may any one type of aliens have different motives as well. We have developed a new concept on UFO motivation. From a rigid assumption that UFOs are here for one purpose, we have moved to the more realistic view that alien reasons may be as *complex*, *various* and *emotional* as our own. If we have come a long way to state the obvious it may be because UFO analysis itself has so far to go.

To illustrate this complexity we will take examples from our own history: Hawaii and Australia. Between them they have seen the gamut of human reasons for coming to new and strange places.

Hawaii was uninhabited until the Polynesian. He came to escape religious conflict and over-population. Captain Cook came for exploration, curiosity, and to broaden knowledge and expand the Empire. The whalers came for rest, recreation and refits — snug harbour and supplies. The missionaries came to spread their religions. The white businessman to make riches and exploit the soil and resources. Orientals emigrated for jobs and money and opportunity. Merchant navies stopped for trade and supplies, the US Navy for military defence, and the tourists for the beauty, climate and fun.

Australia has a different background, and though many reasons are identical, others are different. Who knows why the Aborigines came? Perhaps they were pushed out of their ancestral homelands. The convicts had no choice, because England had overcrowed prisons. The Irish came because of political revolutions, the free settlers for a better chance than in England, the gold seekers for instant wealth. And so on. Reasons abounded.

And the UFOs?

We can eliminate some reasons right away, for they do not seem to fit into the pattern of sightings: greed, exploitation and Empire building seem remote possibilities. If anything we are a nature reserve, free from being preyed upon. So far they have left us alone.

Among the motives available, the following are good bets:

1. **Investigation** — this would explain their relatively constant low-profile on Earth. The incessant, ordinary, low number of sightings seen throughout the years. It would also explain the sightings near new science buildings, technological sites, schools, military bases, power stations, etc. In general a pretty thorough low-key surveillance would be maintained. Teams of researchers might include historians, scientists and cataloguers. These teams would help explain abductions, examinations, sample taking, tests carried out on humans (such as food-giving), dissections, and the apparent scanning of our communications system.
2. **A supply and R & R port** — Merchant and military shipping may stop here covertly for some supplies and to give their crews a rest. Cases of taking water and tapping power could be in this category. After all, "Earth" is really a misleading name for our planet. From space it *really* looks like a water planet, and no doubt would be inviting for some life forms; which brings us to our next and most significant category.
3. **A Nature Reserve** — or put more simply, a tourist spot. At first glance the third idea may sound obvious, or simplistic, or ridiculous. But is it?

Beginning with the idea that Earth is a nature reserve, does this fit the facts? Well, taken with points 1 & 2, frankly yes. While there certainly has been localised intense activity by UFOs, the vast majority of the sightings seem to deliberately avoid close or prolonged contact of any sort.

Indeed it is the very elusiveness of the quarry which upsets us. "Why don't they land and contact us?" is the often-heard demand. Clearly they are under orders not to, either self, or externally imposed. In some way, they have been instructed to refrain from greatly disturbing our planet. And while Keel and others may insist that they are here to hoax and brainwash us, surely their level of activity in this direction is minimal compared, say, to the propaganda that has come from a tiny country like Uganda. It hardly affects us deeply. No, we are not just ignored, we are avoided.

Compare this with an African game reserve and, though unflattering, the analogy is telling. In both cases "foreigners" enter the reserve on the overriding assurance they will not molest the animals. Camera safaries are encouraged, killing or provoking the animals forbidden. Nevertheless, experts keep close and continual tabs on the animals to study their habits and their inter-relationships. Note the parallels with UFOs. We have persistent sightings, with occasional sudden waves. Perhaps Earth has its tourist seasons like Europe and the South Pacific.

Yet to be honest, disruptions do take place: shootings by rays, destructive acts, and so on. Again go back to the African game parks. In spite of the strictest laws, poachers still exist; and even the best behaved and most well-intentioned human sometimes

accidentally provokes an animal through fear or ignorance. The "white hunter" is sometimes called upon to kill to protect the client: or perhaps he fires his rifle just to warn the animal off. This last point could explain the numerous UFO cases where a witness has become too close, or suddenly approaches the craft of the ufonauts and is paralyzed by a ray, or is inadvertently burnt by "radioactivity" when the UFO races away.

Now the reader may begin to understand how crucial the earlier inquiry into the "Mr. Spock" myth was. By no longer insisting upon entirely logical sequences of thought, and by opening up the possibility of emotional (and human-like) reactions, UFO behaviour starts to jell.

But, but, but...what about all the meaningless behaviour? The buzzing of cars, repeated landings in some drab spots, examining the same type of trees over and over, the incessant taking of the most ordinary rocks, plants and so on?

Fine, let's take them one at a time from the viewpoint of the tourist:

A. UFO obsession with cars and other mechanical vehicles

Time in and time out the question has been raised: Why would an advanced race capable of building UFOs continually be attracted to a primitive vehicle like a car? After all, any good study team should have detailed the car's performance levels years ago.

As a tourist I go to South America, what do I want to see? Their jet planes? Their new Cadillacs? No, I want to see their bullock carts. Or the primitive chariots of ancient Egypt in the museums, or the ancient steam trains of the American wild west. *Yes*, it may be as obvious as that. Each new tourist will want to see a quaint car and how these quaint human beings react in them. Hence the thousands of reports of UFO-car encounters. Just new batches of gawking tourists. And it is a fact of the tourist industry that the more tourists come to a place and the more touristy it becomes, the more superficial and repetitious become the tours. It becomes the done thing to do.

B. The incessant visual examination of the most mundane objects – from trees to open fields.

Once again a survey team should have detailed them long before. And the answer is the same as in section A above. Each new tourist will want to see the same things, the done thing, the recognized attractions. In fact it turns into a self-perpetuating cycle: a ufonaut sees an oak tree and is fascinated – maybe they do not have trees back home, or maybe all their trees are only 4 feet tall, or maybe they once had trees thousands or millions of years ago – and the tourist grows excited about his "discovery." He goes home and raves about it to his friends. They want to see it too; they come and see it, then they go home and rave about it and... In this way even the seemingly dull flat prairie of Kansas could become a must to see, especially if vast cities dominate their planet and rural scenery is unusual. As on Earth what the locals take for granted the visitor actually seeks out.

C. The constant sample taking – of the most ordinary things.

The answer to this puzzle is both simple and a little amusing. Souvenirs: Memento stealing is as old as history. In our time the Acropolis in Athens is being threatened both by pollution *and* the thousands of tiny chips people steal for keepsakes. With a whole planet at their disposal such mementos would hardly be missed. And though valueless to us, to an average tourist they would make keen conversation pieces.

Other possibilities, more official in nature, could involve zoos, museums, scientific laboratories, guest lectures and Earth Specialists. There might even be a large souvenir industry for Earth's knick-knacks.

D. The odd playful antics often associated with UFOs.

Though a vaguer category, examples of these would include two or more UFOs playing tag with each other, the buzzing of planes, cars and ships. These suggest a kind of teasing, sowing-wild-oats behaviour often seen by tourists on holiday. Several reports mention identical UFOs exchanging ufonauts which might be similar to two tourists switching motor cycles or bicycles for makeshift races. Numerous cases indicate junior ships playing tag or "chicken" with a mother ship. This kind of boisterousness is commonly associated with holidaymakers.

And for that matter so is the whole theory that often people are deliberately shown a UFO event, that is offered as a display, perhaps trying to get our amazed responses.

Any and all of these examples and many more, can be cases of acting up and letting off steam well known to the tourist industry.

E. Flaps and UFO landing zones – particularly the more offbeat unremarkable areas chosen.

By extrapolating the idea of why they land in remote areas we have seen how odd, "dull" spots could become active and well-visited areas. In fact the tourist hypothesis best explains that perplexity. As it explains the flaps which so baffle us.

While no doubt ego-deflating, flaps could merely be the various peak tourist seasons of various aliens. Or, more likely, specially designed trips coming for a visit. In this way flaps could be regular or irregular and still be the result of the same cause, especially if different aliens were involved.

(Sadly this might mean that the predictability of flaps might prove impossible or only of consequence in anticipating them to gather data.)

For example, cruise ships might tour the Pacific each year but only stop at New Caledonia occasionally, depending on the booking of a convention, or the type of holidays anticipated. If one compounds this with numerous pleasure cruise companies and numerous merchant ships from different countries, we begin to grasp how complex their behaviour may seem to a totally ignorant native studying ships which reach his shore – which is what we unfortunately are.

Using our knowledge of UFOs we can perhaps

validate this analogy. The mother ships would seem to fit this very nicely. A huge ship is used to transport the tourist over the vast bulk of the distance, then it anchors offshore and lets the tenders take them to Earth. Many sightings over the world (e.g. Cressy, Tasmania in Australia for one) [10] show a large mother ship surrounded by smaller more typical UFOs. Sometimes the smaller craft play tag, sometimes they are leaving the bigger ship, sometimes entering it – occasionally all three. Indeed, the system may even be more complex: the mother ships may only be solar ferries taking a packet of small UFOs across and around a solar system while the truly enormous interstellar craft waits beyond the fringe of the solar region.

An excellent explanation of how this procedure might work can be found in A.C.O.S. Bulletin No. 16 – December 1978 in the article by John Prytz titled "Are there too many UFOs?"

Taking this idea still further several other puzzles begin to clear. The wide range of types of craft would be the result of different cultures' vehicles. Much as different nations prefer various designs for their cars so would different ufonauts. Even the same type of aliens might have differing UFOs. If anyone thinks this is ridiculous just compare the space craft of the only two truly space nations of Earth.

And if mother ships were solar ferries of a sort they could be carrying many types of UFOs quite regularly. The mother ships might even be permanently sited for our solar region and used by many different types of ufonauts and their various craft. Our cruise ships carry several types of small boats after all; and designs of cruise ships themselves vary from boating architect to architect.

Moreover, tours to any such nature reserve would probably be restricted to preset areas. This would be advisable for convenience in arranging tours and to control the tourists from molesting humans, or locating a UFO in trouble on Earth. It would be a safety factor like white hunters on safaris. This could also help explain why isolated, apparently ordinary areas would become flap zones year after year.

Another puzzling aspect of flaps is that they are both repetitive and localized like Tully in Queensland, Austrlia" which has had UFO sightings periodically, and yet other times suddenly intensive over large areas of the globe. Tourism fits this picture splendidly. There would be certain spots, well known and on everyone's must-see list, and others visited erratically on one-off tours. The Tully reports might consist of investigation teams and the tourists who do not have to travel during peak seasons; the world flaps can be the peak seasons or big cruise ships coming into our port.

We should also remember that the flaps we record may be totally one-eyed. The huge, mainly empty Polar zones may be the site of massive undetected flaps. And as we pointed out previously we are really the Water planet. How many sightings might be discovered if we could keep comprehensive watch under the oceans? Marine biology may be the bulk of their interest here. There have been many reports near ships on the open seas and even a few USOs. Such tourist programmes would remain basically unknown.

* * * * *

Several final additional points can be discussed:

Earth may be the centre of a large research project as well as mere survey teams. Some sightings could relate to educational courses back on their home planets. (Note how we say planets: if the ETI hypothesis is correct, then the plurality of ufonauts must be faced and come to grips with.) Language studies and cultural differentiation within the same species could be solid areas of interest on Earth. So could "primitive" development be of value to their anthropologists. Their scientific investigations could cover far more than mere zoology and ecology. If, as CEIII cases suggest, aliens do communicate through telepathy we may be forgetting a simple fact. It could mean that we too are at least telepathically receptive, and at the formative stage of this ability. Perhaps this is their main area of study.

Or perhaps those special flap zones are somehow places where the psychic aspects (assuming we have them) are intensified; which may be the reason they are attracted to those spots.

Or perhaps historically we are at a recognized crisis point and they are here to record it and compare it to their own. The tourists might even come for that reason: "see it before it disappears," or "they won't let you see it later," is a common mode of thought among us; perhaps for them too.

Maybe technologically we are on the edge of a major breakthrough and it will change our entire civilization. "See the bullock carts this year, next year they all may have cars."

Or we may be the only intelligent, yet primitive humanoid, within 50 parsecs.

They may come just to laugh at our backwardness.

Or perhaps it is beautiful Saturn which brings them here and we are a mere afterthought.

The possibilities are endless, but the basic logic persuasive. After all, of those of us who travel great distances, how many have only one paltry motive?

* * * * *

Undoubtedly there will be numerous objections to our theory. Most will reduce it to being unproven. The authors readily agree. What we have done is to put the "nature reserve" hypothesis forward and tried to test it against the phenomenon. Circumstantially it fits; it even works. Certainly it works better than any other ETI or alternate theory, but of course we cannot prove it until we actually get our hands on a UFO.

However, we feel we can state two things with assurance. One is a concept upon which the theory hangs and the other is in refutation to a possible challenge to the idea.

1. Ufonauts are definitely not super-rational or single purposed. Any open objective analysis of the phenomenon using the ETI or any other theory as its axiom bears this out.
They are here for a myriad causes.

2. And though the idea of the Earth as a tourist target may seem irrelevant, or petty, or absurdly simple, let us look at it from a human point of view. As we prosper and our standard of living rises, tourism grows by leaps and bounds. The UN has said that by the year 2000 tourism will be the largest industry in the world. Other reports suggest it could be that already. With the increase in affluence and leisure time people travel more and more. They want to see the world, why not the galaxy? – if possible. Tourist flights to the moon are already being *booked*.

Doubtless, many critics will object to the enormous cost to get here from another solar system and would an advanced society waste its resources they may ask? But how many people right now spend more on a holiday than on a new car, often half or more of a year's salary? People plan for months or years for their trips. Besides, if one did a trip of fifty suns then the costs would lessen per trip and competition would make it even cheaper. The mother ships as solar ferries then become quite sensible: each ufonaut brings his own small UFO – hence their diversity – and uses the bigger ships to travel around.

Tourism is one of the great economic, educational and enlightening factors in the world. It produces wealth, tolerance and understanding between individuals and nations. Labelling it trivial is to ignore its power and attractiveness. For really tourism is part of the quest to know, and in the final analysis that is what drove man to space. Why not another being from another sun?

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A VERY PERSONAL ENCOUNTER "SOMEWHERE IN SUSSEX"

Patricia B. Grant

THE letter UFOIN received from this witness seemed to be a straightforward account of a daylight disc observed for about 15 minutes at fairly close range. Subsequent interviews and correspondence have uncovered far more detail to give rise to speculation that the witness remembers only part of the sighting.•

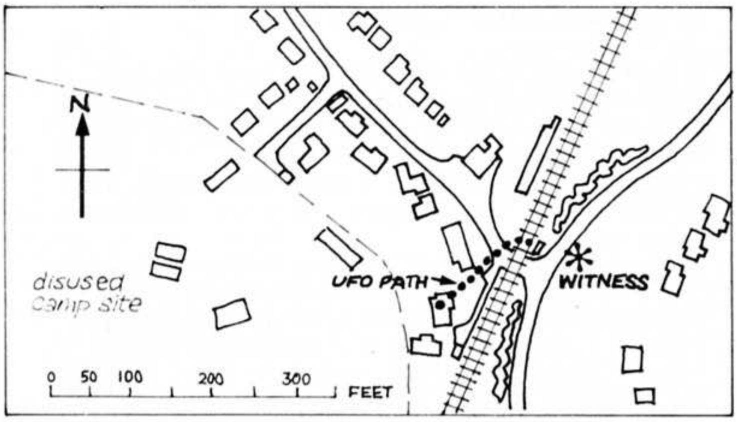
Denise is a highly intelligent young matron with an above average standard of education, and has recently served in a branch of the British Military Services where she was fully trained in aircraft recognition. On a bright cloudless day in the autumn of 1977 she stood at a bus stop on the outskirts of a small village in the South East of England. It was about 5.20 p.m., although her bus was not due until 5.40. This was due to the fact that she had missed it in the past because the hourly service had been erratic, sometimes very early and sometimes late.

Mrs. Grant is a member of UFOIN who lives in mid-Kent, and this is the first investigation she has undertaken. Readers will appreciate the need to withhold both the proper name of the witness (the name used here is a pseudonym) and the nature of her work, as well as the location of the event, in East Sussex; the interests — indeed the well-being — of the witness have to be protected in any report when requested. The features of the incident that are of real interest lie in the way it happened to a "repeater" witness, in the continuing effects on the witness, and in the subsequent incidents such as the figure at the window, and the surprising effect on the dog. Certain aspects of this case bring to mind that of Mrs. Coombes, the "repeater" witness who lives near Broad Haven in Dyfed, the subject of a number of reports in FSR.
— EDITOR

The UFO

She had just finished lighting a cigarette when she noticed a sharply defined, black oval object which appeared over the roof of a house about 220 feet away and almost due West South West from her position. (In retrospect she feels the object may have been rising from the grounds of an abandoned camp site behind the house, but this thought did not occur to her until months later when she and I were studying the Ordnance Survey map of the area.)

As she watched the object and tried to determine what type of aircraft it was, she felt "extremely amazed that there was absolutely no engine noise at all..." The speed of the craft was equally astonishing. "It was at an elevation of about 50 degrees rising to 55 degrees in a total of five minutes... the speed was so unnaturally slow for a vehicle of such a size..." The she stated: "A *Harrier* would be able to make these manoeuvres but the engine noise would have been unbearable." It was a very large craft (the object appeared to her to be larger than a 4" diameter plate held at arms length). She believes that it may have been no more than 300 feet in altitude, but concedes that there is no way to establish this because at no time did it pass in front of any object to which she could relate it.



This map of location and sighting is accurate to scale shown, and to cardinal points.

Denise continued: "Still appearing to be black, the 'nose' part of the oblong shape appeared to be red. I feel this was possibly a reflection of the sun."

By this time Denise had realised that this was no known aircraft and on impulse she waved in its direction. "I hope you won't think I'm crazy, but I thought 'come down here and let me get a good look at you.' " She was not at all frightened and sensed no hostility or danger. Immediately the disc changed course and began to move in her direction. "It then very slowly moved to an elevation of 90 degrees. This manoeuvre took a total of ten minutes. Still no noise at all..." She finds difficulty in determining the size the object appeared to be at this stage, but she says it was "very close."

At this point the witness became aware of the time, and was wondering when the bus would arrive. It was very late. Then: "The black oblong shape appeared to decrease in length and the sun's reflection showed me it had a type of dome on top and was oval underneath."

She could see it clearly now. It seemed to be a light greenish grey metal with a moderately reflective surface. There was a "greenish-blue" light at the top of the dome. The dish-shaped underside was slightly tilted towards her. The whole object was slowly spinning in a clockwise direction and hovered over a shed 50 feet in front of her, about 15 degrees North

of due West from her position. Denise said: "I know it sounds silly but I felt as though I was being watched by it" and she had the sensation of being surrounded by an "invisible ray" which came from the underside of the craft.

The Bus

Suddenly she became aware of the bus in front of her, motor idling, and realised she had not heard it coming, which was most odd. One could always clearly hear it approach a minute or two before it came into view. She discovered that she still held her cigarette, burned down to the filter. As she fumbled for coins to pay the bus driver Denise experienced a numbness, stiffness and lack of co-ordination in her fingers. Her motor nerves seemed to have been affected and she stumbled while mounting the stairs to the upper level of the bus. She had hoped to see the craft at closer range from this vantage point, but it had completely disappeared.

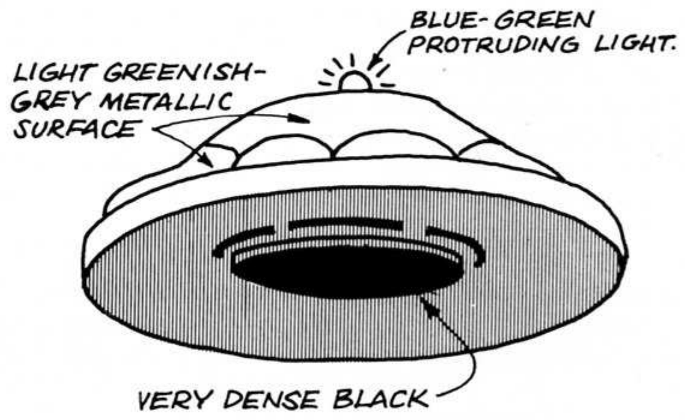
There was only one passenger on the bus, an elderly lady who was seated on "the sideways seat beside the driver" and was "staring into space at her lap." I pointed out that the driver must have seen something, as his view would have been unobstructed for approximately 800 feet from the bus stop, but he gave no indication of having seen anything untoward. Denise felt that this man, whom she knew from having ridden on this service regularly, would have said nothing if he *had* noticed the craft. An elderly man, "morose and miserable," he had never spoken to his passengers and was never friendly. "I remember only too well at the time how annoyed I felt when I saw the driver was HIM of all people. If it had been any other driver I would have immediately mentioned the thing I saw, and they would have been a witness to the sighting."

Post-encounter Symptoms

Almost immediately after taking her seat, Denise developed an acute headache which persisted until the following morning. Her bus journey was "a very quick one for me, although probably the bus was only travelling at its usual speed. I was so nervous and angry because there were no people with whom to discuss what I saw...Angry, because they would not be able to say they also saw it. I wanted to prove to society that UFOs were obviously real, although at 4 o'clock that same day I didn't really know what to think on the subject."

She does not remember walking from the bus station in the town to her place of employment. She was ten to fifteen minutes late, and during her hours at work she was nervous, shaky and unaccountably clumsy in her movements. She said: "I felt unsafe and I longed to get home to 'security' but, when I eventually did get home, I still felt the same way. I remember my heart racing. It is racing now as I remember all this and write it down."

The witness added later: "I was very thirsty after my sighting . . . . I downed at least a pint of lemonade as soon as I had the chance, but I remember feeling queasy . . . . also I was thirsty all evening."



Artist's impression of object seen: This drawing has been approved by the witness

Denise also developed conjunctivitis, her eyes burned and watered for a week. At times her vision was very poor. Apart from this she suffered recurring gastric disturbances, continued to move in a clumsy manner, had difficulty sleeping and had none of her customary energy. These symptoms continued for a week, gradually diminishing. One permanent personality change did occur. She confesses to having had a strong temper before this event, but now she seldom becomes upset or angry.

Although she did not report her sighting officially at the time, she made discreet enquiries among her many friends in the village and environs and could find no-one who had seen anything similar to the strange craft. (This was, of course, the traditional time of day for the English "tea".)

Recurring dream and "conversation"

Upon further questioning I learned that Denise had a recurring dream about the incident. She described this to me in detail: "The dream I have *never varies** although very difficult to describe in the harsh light of day. I shall endeavour to try. I frequently dream the occurrence exactly as it happened. I see the UFO very clearly. It travels across the sky and then turns towards me, exactly as the event occurred, right to the last details of my clothes and the type of day weatherwise. It then becomes untrue." (I understand this last statement to mean that the dream from this point does not conform to her memory of the incident.)

"I have a telepathic conversation with the occupants. They are curious about me and want to speak with me. They are pleased I am not performing in the usual manner of observed subjects – I am not at all frightened and feel very pleased at their appearance. They say they know me, and they want to take me with them. I am very happy with the idea, but then I remember my family and husband. I say I would miss my family and want them to come with me to see whatever I will see in my travels with them to their home planet. They argue with me; they want only me. We reach deadlock, and they say that they will come again to see me and see if I then wish to go alone with them. They sadly say goodbye, I also

* My italics – PGB.

say goodbye. I am very, very sad at their going."

She continues; "I never actually see them in person, but I feel I know them well (their Race) but had forgotten about them while I was here on Earth. I seem to know subconsciously that I will never come back to Earth once I go with them. Also that I will not want to return."

More about the witness

It might be well at this point to say that Denise is a "country girl," happily married with very handsome and well-mannered children. Her home is consistently clean and tidy. Her husband holds a responsible position in agricultural work and she holds the GNC in nursing, although her present post is not in this field. Her health has always been excellent, her vision is good (she has never required glasses), her hearing is normal, and her life-style has always been one of vigour and activity. There is certainly nothing about her personality that could suggest the neurotic dreamer seeking mystical experience, nor could she be considered a lonely soul yearning for attention. She is "down to earth" and forthright in character. It took several interviews to learn all these details of this sighting, as Denise explained she wanted to avoid "sensationalism" and felt embarrassed to recount all that had happened.

Car pacing incident in the past

I asked her if she had ever had any similar previous experiences. She admitted that she and her husband had witnessed a large, round, luminous, orange object which followed their car for over thirty minutes one night as they were travelling through Ashdown Forest. The light, which was about 30 yards to the right of the car, matched their speed and seemed to change size, sometimes being as large as a football at arm's length, sometimes the size of a tennis ball.

"We commented at the time about this strange sight, but we thought it was possibly the moon. While we travelled along the main road where it was out of our view, I looked around for it, and discovered that the moon was high in the sky and bright yellow. When the orange light reappeared, again on our right side, we were both very frightened and were extremely glad to turn up the lane to our home. We did not stop to look if it was around, and we went indoors very quickly. I cannot remember how I felt at the time apart from frightened, but I did feel as though I was being surveyed. My husband also felt this way. We very quickly forgot all about it and did not mention this to anyone as we knew we would be laughed at. This occurred about 1968/69."

Her husband then reminded her of two other sightings which occurred about the time of the car chase, and in describing the first she pointed out that the papers had explained this phenomenon as being a satellite re-entry. This sighting needs no further description here as it was witnessed by thousands of people and was widely publicised at the time it occurred.

Her other sighting, witnessed also by her husband, was of a bright ball shaped light near the Great Bear Constellation. The light made several right-angled manoeuvres and then passed out of view by going over their roof.

Comments

In analysis, I think it is reasonable to assume that the witness has reported, with great accuracy, the details of the object she observed. In view of her training in aircraft recognition it is extremely unlikely that the object could have been an experimental aircraft or balloon.

Her narrative has contained no discrepancies over the months I've interviewed her, with the exception of a certain vagueness about the precise time between her arrival at the bus stop and subsequent sighting of the craft and her arrival at her work. We can be reasonably certain that she observed the craft for a full fifteen minutes, during which time she was completely alone. What is more difficult to analyse is whether or not there was a time lapse in her memory from the moment she felt encompassed by "an invisible ray" and the arrival of the bus. We know that she arrived at work about 6.10 to 6.15 p.m., and that the journey would not have taken over 20 minutes under ordinary circumstances. (This is a generous allowance. In fact, her recollection of the bus ride was that it was "a very quick one.") By drawing up a schedule of the events it seems that it could have been possible that she was alone and in close proximity to the craft for almost 35 minutes, 20 minutes of which she does not remember. It is also certain that there is a minimum of 5 minutes for which she cannot account. Because of this it was suggested to her that she undergo regressive hypnosis, but she is not very keen on the idea and is presently giving it consideration.

Possible fabrication on the witness's part is untenable. Her present post is one that requires the most stringent character reference and in any event, practical jokes are totally out of character for this girl. She is puzzled by the fact that she has had several sightings. She has not studied the UFO phenomenon in depth but believes she has probably seen interplanetary vehicles of some sort.

An interesting postscript to this case has emerged with the occurrence of various events which will be "old hat" to all students of the UFO problem.

Difficulties, and an apparition

During the months I interviewed Denise we began to experience difficulties in communication. One of my letters arrived torn in half, the stamp gone. Other letters seemed to appear at odd times from the remainder of the post and were "stuck in the door" rather than on the mat where the others lay. Then on 9 November, 1978, at 7.30 in the evening, as she, her children and the dog were sitting quietly in the lounge they were startled by a man looking in the window. He disappeared so quickly that Denise could give no description of him. Taking the dog by the collar she went outside but could see no one. Now one would have to visit Denise's home to realise how inaccessible that road is to the public. The light would not be seen by a casual passer by, the bungalow is fenced off, the gate is not easy to open and

the window itself overlooks open fields. I asked her if the dog had reacted in his usual way, (he terrifies me,) and she replied that he had behaved in a most uncharacteristic manner.

"Very strange† that you should ask... the dog ran back inside after I let go of her collar. She didn't even bark, but just cowered into the fireside rug and growled a bit.

† Denise's emphasis – PBG

SCHOOLROOM "LANDING" IN LORETO, ARGENTINA

Heriberto Janosch

THE first information received on this case appeared on January 15, 1979, in *La Razōn*, the Buenos Aires newspaper, which told of an incident which was alleged to have occurred. I have summarized the contents of the article as follows:-

An unidentified flying object appeared suddenly before a boy, aged 12, in a school in Loreto, in the province of Santiago del Estero. Two humanoids descended from the object dressed in aluminium coloured clothing. The boy was immediately immobilized by them. They remained in the room for a considerable time. The incident is stated to have taken place at midday.

We wrote to the witness, Marcos Rafael Suarez, asking for detailed information and we received a reply through a Sr. Juan Angel Gomez, who lives in Loreto and who is kindly collaborating with us in this matter, by interviewing the boy on our behalf. This has enabled us to reconstruct the alleged incident.

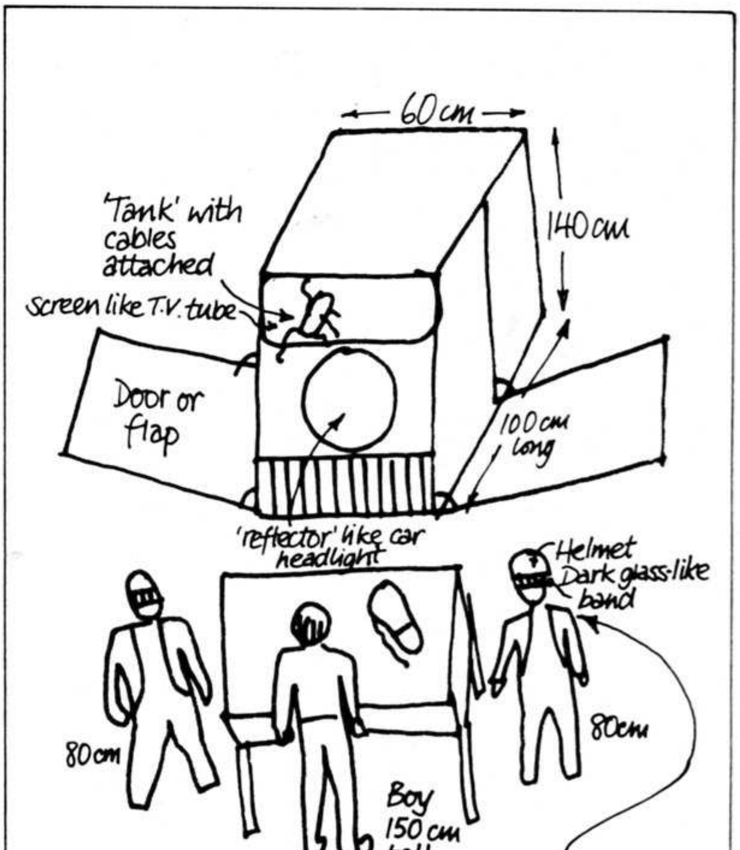
It took place on Saturday (possibly January 13th) at 11.50 a.m. in a room 4 by 4 metres in a local school, where the boy's father works as a janitor. In the room there was, among other things, a refrigerator worked by kerosene, a wooden table used as a desk, some small chairs and some other tables. There was also a box containing medicine, a record-player not in use at that moment, and electric lighting which also was not in use at that moment.

The boy was alone in the room at the time of the happening, putting a piece of water mlon in the refrigerator, and while doing this he heard a cardboard box full of newspapers fall on to the floor.

On turning round he saw a strange rectangular-shaped machine 60 cm wide by 140 cm high and 100 cm in length. It was aluminium-coloured, with a black type of screen like a TV tube, on the upper front part, and through which a section of the interior of the object could be seen. Through the screen the boy saw what looked like a tank with cables attached to it. Below the screen was a reflector similar to a car's headlight, and beneath the reflector there were black vertical lines of even length, spaced evenly across the front of the "Machine."

The "machine" itself was suspended in mid-air at about 20 cm above the floor. A noise, like an electric fan in motion, could be heard.

Suddenly two doors (or flaps) one at each side of the object opened outwards and downwards. A small being about 80 cm high emerged from the right-hand side door, and this was followed by the appearence of a similar being from the left-hand side door. They were dressed in shiny one piece overalls, with shiny straps. They wore helmets of the same material



The incident, based on original drawing by the witness

and a dark glass-like band across their faces at eye level.

It was stated that the being who descended from the left-hand side of the machine seized the boy's right arm (the boy is 150 cm tall), and he noticed that the small beings' hand had only four fingers.* The boy tried to free himself but the humanoid gripped him harder. At the same time he heard the sound of a voice which seemed to him to emanate from the object and which said, in Spanish, "sit down don't move" (sentâte, no te muevas). The being forced the boy down on to a chair but, although he was unable to move, he remained conscious.

While on the chair the boy noticed the other being close the outside door of the room, and then proceed towards an adjacent room. The boy now observed that each being had, strapped to its back an object that looked like a soda syphon with a clock-like device affixed at the top.

In the meantime the humanoid which had seized the boy returned to the machine and apparently activated a reflector which emitted a powerful beam of reddish light. This "blinded" the boy, and made his eyes water. At this point the boy, unable to shout or move, is said to have lost consciousness. After an interval of time, the duration of which the boy has no knowledge, he regained consciousness and found himself still on the chair, and able now to move. Rubbing his eyes he found that the beings and the machine had disappeared. The door which one of them had closed was now open and the youngster ran through this, falling headlong to the ground. His 8-year-old sister arrived just after his fall and saw him getting up from the ground. Shortly after this his father arrived on the scene and saw that his son's face was purplish red, and that he was in a high state of nervous tension. On asking him what had happened Marcos related all that had taken place.

Marcos' father, realizing that his son had suffered a great shock, took him to a local doctor who immediately examined him, and gave him some sedatives to take.

The incident was reported to the police station by the janitor.

* * * * *

Other details which we want to mention are that the humanoids were in proportion to their height. Furthermore, after regaining consciousness, the boy found the room in disorder, but apparently nothing missing. A sulphurous odour pervaded the room.

People in the neighbouring houses stated that electric fans and refrigerators stopped working, and that their radios emitted the sound of electrical discharges and interference.

Senor Gomez kindly forwarded us details of the Marcos background and family. He is about to enter upon his secondary studies, he is very lively, and he is interested in reading sports magazines. He enjoys good health. He is a Catholic and acts as an acolyte in the local church. He lives in a small country town with his parents, brothers and sisters where most of the people know one another.

We cannot arrive at any definite conclusions about this case until we have gathered more information on the same. We expect soon to receive the doctor's report on the boy's condition. Sr. Gomez has offered to follow up the case for us and, as soon as we obtain fresh information from him, we shall duly report it.

* [*Three fingers and a thumb, or four fingers without a thumb? (In which, latter, case how could he grip?) —EDITOR*]

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

UFOs in the Bible

Dear Sir. – Mr. J. W. Goodes, in his letter (FSR Vol. 24, No. 4) commenting on a previous statement by J. Wadkin "Whatever else UFOs might be, they are not covered by any Biblical Prophecy," goes on to draw our attention to St. Mark, chapter 13, verse 27, and quotes what he thinks is a UFO prediction:-

"Coming from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven."

I don't know which Bible Mr. Goodes was quoting from, but verse 27 dosen't say that in mine!

Mr. Goodes was trying to take a verse out of context, but to be correct one should read the whole passage, verses 24–27, and I quote from the *Good News Bible*.

"Then the Son of Man (Jesus) will appear, coming in the clouds with great power and glory. He will send the angels out to the far corners of the earth to gather God's chosen people (born again Christians) from one end of the world to the other."

In this case it would have been made clearer if the same passage had been studied in the other gospels, e.g. Matthew, chapter 24, verses 29–31, and Luke, chapter 21, verses 25–28. Also it's a good idea to read other versions e.g. *Revised Standard* and a modern version *Good News Bible*.

Finally might I add that the Bible is like no other book in that it is a collection of books written by people inspired by the Holy Spirit of God. Therefore one needs help by the power of the Holy Spirit to be able to understand it. As Peter says in his 2nd letter chapter 1, verse 20. (G.N.B): "Above all else, however, remember that no one can explain by himself a prophecy in the scriptures."

Yours faithfully,
D. Whitaker (Mrs.)
Sheraleigh
8 Central Park
Well Head
Halifax HX1 2BT
West Yorkshire.

The Bebedouro Object

Dear Mr. Bowen,– I was very interested by the illustration accompanying Ann Druffel's article "Are There UFOs that Mimic?" in the current edition of FSR. Actually, I had been aware of the José Antônio da Silva case for some time as I had read of it in the Signet paperback *Encounter cases from FSR*.

However, the main purpose for my writing to you is this: imagine that you are an observer on the ground and that above you is the object described in the mentioned illustration. How would it appear?. And secondly, how would you describe it afterwards to interested individuals?.

You would, perhaps, liken the object to articles with which your audience would probably be reasonably familiar – a parachute perhaps, or even that the object looked vaguely like an umbrella!

It was at this point that I had the sneaking suspicion that I had encountered a description such as had been described somewhere before, and that it was involved with a UFO event which had occurred locally. I decided to consult my UFO cuttings (I have a couple of scrap books full of them!) and sure enough, I eventually found the report that I had been looking for. Unfortunately, I have not yet managed to have it photo-copied and so here is a written reproduction as follows:-

From *Luton News,* Thursday, September 15th, 1966, under the heading, "Silver thing in the Sky":-

"A silver thing, as big as a dustbin lid in the sky, that rolled over so that one could see underneath, and then turned off its edge and disappeared into thin air" was how Mr. Len Smith of 104 Flitwick Road, Ampthill, described an object he saw high in the sky above Ampthill Park on Monday evening.

" 'I have always laughed at reports of people seeing Flying Saucers, ' said Mr. Smith afterwards, "but I had my son-in-law, Mr. Peter Hughes, who lives next door, with me and he saw it too."

"The time was 7.10 p.m. and there was a clear blue sky. The object was 'at a terrific height.' Mr. Smith said he thought at first it was a parachute, and he was waiting for it to come down. 'Then it turned, and we could see underneath it. It was like someone opening an umbrella. Then it vanished.'

"The total time the object was in Mr. Smith's view was, he thought, one to one-and-a-half minutes."

Well, it could well be, of course, that the above report refers to an object which has no relevance at all with the object described by José Antônio, but because of my initial observation that both objects would seem to resemble each other when observed from the ground, I considered, for better or worse, to bring this report to your attention. Indeed, if the José Antônio case is genuine then it would seem to make good sense that objects complying to the definition of that reported by José Antônio should be monitored at every opportunity for reasons that are obvious!

To close I must say how I realy do enjoy reading FSR – keep up the good work.

Yours sincerely
William P. Dillon
43 Hollybush Road,
Vauxhall Park Estate,
Luton,
Beds.
March 22nd 1979

The Flying 'Man' in Black

Dear Sir,– I would like to submit the following material in connection with the article *A "Flying 'man' in Black" in Russia,* by Vladimir V. Rubtsov, appearing in the recent FSR, Vol. 24, No. 4, 1979, page 13.

The black flying "man" described by the witness Mrs. E. E. Loznaya, bears a striking resemblance to the "Black Monk", occurring in the story of the same name by Anton Chekhov (1890-1904). In this story, the principal character, Kovrin, first gives an account of a legend about an aerial black monk then subsequently in the story encounters the black monk itself.

Here are some interesting excerpts from the story contained in the book, *Select Tales of Tchehov,* translated by Constance Garnett, and published by Chatto and Windus in 1968.

" I have been all day thinking of a legend," he said. "I don't remember whether I have read it somewhere or heard it, but its a strange and almost grotesque legend. To begin with, it is somewhat obscure. A thousand years ago a monk, dressed in black, wandered about the desert, somewhere in Syria or Arabia... Some miles from where he was, some fishermen saw another black monk, who was moving slowly over the surface of a lake. This second monk was a mirage. Now forget all the laws of optics, which the legend does not recognize, and listen to the rest. From that mirage there was cast another mirage, then from that other a third, so that the image of the black monk began to be repeated endlessly from one layer of the atmosphere to another. So that he was seen at one time in Africa, at another in Spain, then in Italy, then in the Far North... Then he passed out of the atmosphere of the earth, and now he is wandering all over the universe, still never coming into conditions in which he might disappear. Possibly he may be seen in Mars or in some star of the Southern Cross. But, my dear, the real point on which the whole legend hangs, lies in the fact that, exactly a thousand years from the day when the monk walked in the desert, the mirage will return to the atmosphere of the earth again and will appear to men. And it seems that the thousand years is almost up... According to the legend, we may look out for the black monk today or tommorow." (page 319.)

Then subsequently:-

"But then waves began running across the rye, and a light evening breeze softly touched his (Kovrin's) uncovered head. A minute later there was another gust of wind, but stronger – the rye began rustling, and he heard behind him the hollow murmur of the pines. Kovrin stood still in amazement. From the horizon there rose up to the sky like a whirlwind on a water spout, a tall black column. Its outline was indistinct, but from the first instant it could be seen that it was not standing still but moving with fearful rapidity, moving straight towards Kovrin and the nearer it came the smaller and the more distinct it was. Kovrin moved aside into the rye to make way for it, and only just had time to do so.

"A monk dressed in black with a grey head and black eyebrows, his arms crossed over his breast, floated by him... His bare feet did not touch the earth. After he had floated twenty feet beyond him, he looked at Kovrin, and nodded to him with a friendly but sly smile. But what a pale, fearfully pale, thin face! Beginning to grow larger again, he flew across the river, collided noiselessly with the clay bank and pines, and passing through them, vanished like smoke." (page 320)

The resemblance of Chekhov's figure with that described by the witness in the FSR article seems beyond mere chance. Chekhov was born in Taganrog, in Southern Russia, some 1600 miles west from Pavlodar also in Southern Russia, where the witness claims to have had the experience.

Since the coincidence of the stories is too close to ignore we could infer the following:-

Either, (a) The witness had read or heard of the Chekhov story which then subsequently, wittingly or unwittingly, influenced her into giving the account or experiencing the "apparition."

Or (b) The legend of the black monk described by Chekhov in his story is current in that part of the world. From which it would follow that the witness was again influenced

Concluded on cover page iii

RELEASE OF FURTHER OFFICIAL SPANISH DOCUMENTS ON UFOs

Juan José Benítez

Translation from the Spanish by Gordon Creighton

ON the question of UFOs, a subject still controversial and productive of much dispute, many of our scientists have given their verdict. It is a negative one. We, who investigate the subject in depth, are always flabbergasted when we listen to, or read about, personalities and authorities of the scientific world who deny the existence of UFOs because, quite simply, "there are no proofs..."

Recently, in the course of a round table discussion held in the Institute of Civil Engineers in Madrid, university professor Sanchez Tarifa declared that "...all the alleged proofs of the reality of UFOs are false, and there exists not one single piece of proof of them, as has been verified by NASA after an exhaustive study of more than 12,000 cases."

If that professor would read the report of the enquiry conducted by the famous "Condon Commission" and not the report by NASA, he would realize the "more than considerable" blunder that he has committed in making such a statement...

For in the said Condon Report, precisely through the massive total of proofs assembled in it, the reality of the UFOs is already demonstrated.

But, leaving aside those hundreds of thousands of pieces of testimony that have been recorded throughout the world since the 1940s, I would like to cite another chapter, one that is almost entirely unknown to the public at large and, naturally, also unknown to a large proportion of the Official Scientists. I refer to the documents and files held by the Governments of many countries, especially their Air Forces.

"Confidential"

Obviously, well nigh all of these official reports bear the stamp "confidential", or "top secret", or "restricted." And they are regarded as military secrets.

The journalist and investigator who is the author of these lines has been one of the few and privileged civilians, having been able to hold in his hands so many as 14 official files from the Air Force. To put it more concretely, from the *Spanish* Air Force. The first twelve files were handed to me in person on October 20, 1976 in the old Air Ministry building in Madrid. The other two files came to me in the closing weeks of 1978 and also from the hands of a senior general.

When you read and analyze these files, which total almost 300 folio pages, it becomes definitely and categorically clear that the UFOs exist and, quite evidently, are a matter of the deepest concern to the Governments of the whole planet.

But, since we are endeavouring to produce some proofs, let us just take a look and judge for ourselves from one of these exhaustive reports, wherein the eyewitnesses offer not the tiniest shadow of doubt. It is no longer – as our hypercritics allege – a question of statements from "poor uneducated peasants and shepherds." In this case the eyewitnesses are military and civilian aircraft pilots and the entire crew of a vessel of our fleet, all of whom observed a large UFO over the Atlantic. Until now, this official file – like many others lodged in the innermost recesses of the archives of the Armed Forces – had been considered "confidential."

Conscious of their grave responsibility, the Spanish Armed Forces have now commenced a gradual but steady process of revealing everything pertaining to this subject.

Over 70 folio pages

The file consists of over 70 folio pages containing maps, diagrams, and sketches, relating to the appearance of a gigantic spherical UFO over the sea.

The report was compiled in the Headquarters of the Canary Islands Air Force Zone, and bears the official number 02/76. At the foot of the report appears the signature of the Comandante Juez Informador (official reporting judge title of the Commandant of the Canary Islands Air Force Zone).

The facts

As we learn from the file, at about 1905 hours on November 19, 1976, the crew of a military aircraft of the Spanish Air Force, the crew of another aircraft owned by the Spantax Company, plus the entire crew of the naval training vessel *Juan Sebastian Elcano,* watched a tremendous circular object descending slowly over the waters of the Atlantic Ocean in an area to the west of the Canary Islands.

The sighting lasted until 1925 hours, and was observed not only by the crews of the two aircraft and the naval vessel referred to above, but also by many other eyewitnesses among the civilian population of the Canary Islands.

However, in line with the criteria at present

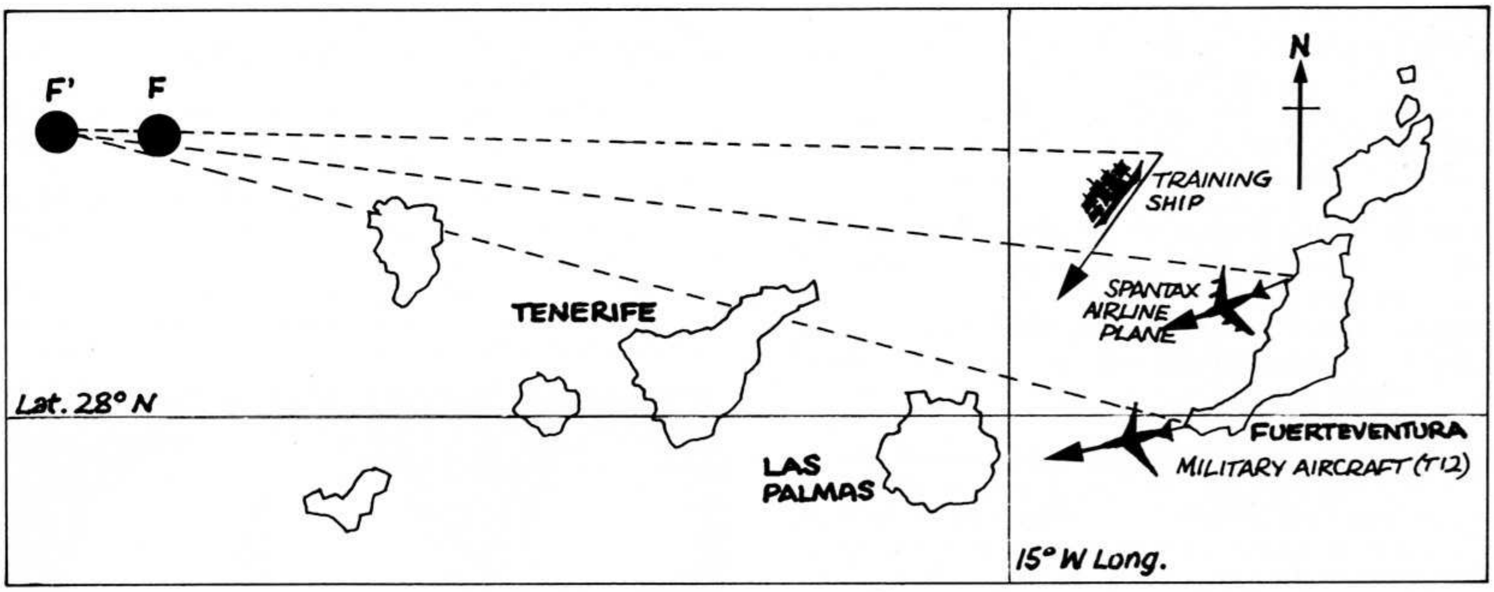


Figure 1: The Canary Islands, indicating estimated position of the phenomenon

employed by the military authorities in the evaluation of eyewitnesses in UFO cases, I shall here refer solely to the version of the story as furnished by those who, in the present official file in question, are described as eyewitnesses of category "A1". This classification, a purely military one, is the top listing in respect of the quality of the witnesses. Category A1 comprises at the present time individuals from the following professions;

military pilots,
civil pilots,
aeronautical engineers,
aeronautical authorities,
astronomers,
meteorologists.

Well now, in this exhaustive file on the affair, the first eyewitness interrogated by the Juez Instructor (Examining Magistrate) was Don Carlos Dolz de Espejo y González de la Riva, at that date a General of Division and Head of the Canary Islands Air Zone.

In other words: the supreme authority in the Canary Islands Zone.

The report shows that, at the moment in question, General Dolz was aboard a T-12 military aircraft, No. 461-43, which was flying towards the Air Force Base at Gando, Las Palmas. With him were Comandante Alfonso Ruiz Crespo, his ADC; Lt. Col. José Luis Hidalgo García, second pilot, and Brigadier José Ortiz Minue, also of the Air Force and the engineer officer in charge of the said aircraft.

All of whom, as I have said, are eyewitnesses considered to belong to "Category 1A."

The General's statement

The report shows that the statement of Divisional General Don Carlos Dolz was as follows:

Description of the object.

1. Size: (If disc-shaped or circular, use the Sun or Moon as a means of comparison): *"Three times the normal apparent size of the Moon (full Moon.)"*
2. Colour: *"White at the outset."*
3. Number of objects: *"One."*
4. In formation?: *"No."*
5. Tail, trail or exhaust?: *"Subsequently object increased in size, forming a perfect whitish-grey semicircular halo."*
6. Sound: *"None."*
7. Other details of interest: *The phenomenon lay to the right of our flight route, at about 30°. The sighting lasted a long time, for it remained in sight throughout the whole of our linear flight and was only lost to view when we descended into the layer of haze to take up a holding position prior to landing."*

Further on, the witness remarks:-

"The object was apparently stationary. At first we took it to be the Moon, although we instantly perceived that it could not be, from its position (about 10° above our flight-level) and also from the fact that it was growing bigger all the time. The circle turned into a semicircular halo which appeared to be positioned on the horizon. In the centre of it there was a bright, bottle-green coloured geometrical image shaped approximately like a barrel, and above that there was another marking, a smaller rectangular shape of the same colour."

Such, in very brief terms, is the gist of the statement made by the Divisional General. But what he and the rest of his crew aboard that military aircraft did not know was that the same object was being observed at the same time by the sailors on the *Juan Sebastián Elcano.*

Seen also from the Naval Training Ship

Just at the same moment when the Spanish Air Force plane's crew were beginning to observe the huge disc, other highly qualified professionals were also viewing the unusual scene from the Navy's training-ship.

And the file we are discussing contains a horoughgoing and detailed investigation, conducted by the

Figure 2: Early phases as observed by witnesses
Left: Point of light bigger than 1st magnitude star.
Centre: Spiral movement 4 complete turns
Right: Vivid white globe of light growing to thrice the size of the full moon.

Judge Informant (in Spanish *Juez Informador*, an officer of the Spanish Air Force) into what was seen by the crew of this Navy ship, which was to the west of the island of Lanzarote and en route to Las Palmas at the time in question.

Not only was the Divisional General in the T-12 aircraft unaware that the crew of the training-ship were also observing the UFO. The latter were likewise unaware of what was being seen by the General and his party, and both the General and party on the one hand and the training-ship's personnel on the other hand were all unaware that people aboard a *second* aircraft were also observing the scene (see map, Figure 1).

Let us take a glance at the statement made by Lieut. Fernando Gõmez Guerra, who was in charge of the training ship, a professional naval officer with twelve years of service.

According to the Air Force file, the meteorological situation at the time was: "A few clouds on the horizon. Sky clear, starry night; calm."

The training ship's position was at 29° 04' N., 14° 33' W (see map) when the UFO was first observed from the bridge. The report says:

"I was on the bridge and in command of the watch on the training vessel *Juan Sebastiãn Elcano*, accompanied by two midshipmen, when one of the latter drew my attention to the phenomenon (that is to say, I did not see the beginning of it. What I saw is described under Paragraph D 5.5.

"Sunset was at 18.05 hrs, and the sun went down at a bearing of approximately 245.

"The phenomenon started as a bright point of light; then it formed a semicircle of very intense yellowish-white light, geometrically perfect.

"It rapidly increased in size, and the light became more whitish, but without losing the sharpness of its outline. When it had stopped growing bigger it began to lose brightness very slowly, and the luminous effect was gone after ten minutes. The point of light, no longer very bright, continued for about twenty-five minutes longer. Bearing: 270."

This statement by the officer in command of the training ship was accompanied by statements from various members of his crew. With the aid of these statements the Instructing Judge was able to reconstruct the various phases of this sighting.

During the initial phase (designated as "phase A" in the official report) the disc rose up on the horizon, like a point of light, larger than a star of the first magnitude. Then it performed a curious movement – in a spiral – until it had completed four turns (see 2nd sketch in Figure 2).

Then it turned into a brilliant white light, which began to grow until it was three times the size of the Moon.

In "phase B" the light continued in this process of progressive, gigantic expansion, until it covered half of the horizon.

In the final phase, it was like a semicircle, with two geometrical green shapes in the centre. After 25 minutes it began to lose intensity and to fade out.

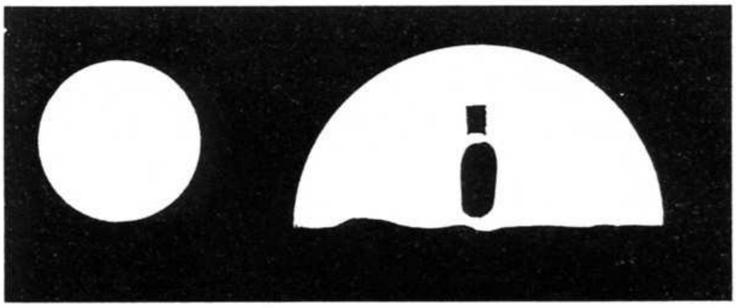


Figure 3: Left, phase "B"; Right, final phase.

Statement from the Captain of the "Spantax" aircraft

At the same time the crew of another aircraft, belonging to the "Spantax" Air Line Company, which was flying across the Canary Islands, also saw the appearance of the gigantic UFO. The Air Force file contains two statements from this aircraft, namely from Sr. Pedro Briales Brund, Captain of the plane, and Sr. Manuel Valverde de Armas, his second pilot. The first-named has had 14,000 hours of flying, and is a Major on the Military Staff.

Among the various things they have to say in their statements, there is the following:-

As it grew rapidly in size, it "settled down" on the horizon, forming a perfect semicircle covering a large area of the horizon; in the centre of the halo we could see a number of green rays. From the height at which we were, we could tell that the phenomenon must lie on the other side behind the Islands. When it first started to expand, we had the impression that it was rapidly approaching us."

All these eyewitnesses – the Divisional General, his companions aboard the military aircraft, the Navy officers and seamen, and the pilots of the aircraft of the Spantax commercial air line, are all "Top Category" witnesses in the military scale of evaluation referred to above. All of them – seeing the phenomenon from different positions – agreed completely in the details which they gave of the affair. In brief, every one of them was "a totally reliable" witness to the appearance of an "unidentified flying object" over the Atlantic. And their statements, with their full names, are here in this official Spanish Air Force file. The report uses the term "UFO", and "UFO" is repeated again on many of its pages, right through the report.

Well now, can we arrive at any concrete conclusion or hypothesis? What precisely does the report tell us about this UFO of gigantic size?

Perhaps the most interesting part of this official document with which we are concerned is the section which deals with all the *possible explanations** for what the eyewitnesses aboard a Spanish naval vessel and two Spanish aircraft, as well as personnel of the Air Force Base at Gando, and many civilian residents of the Canary Islands, had seen on that evening of November 19, 1976.

For the length of seven single-spacing typewritten folio pages the Officer dealing with the case carefully and assiduously analyzes – *and discards* – every single hypothesis that might have served to explain the presence, to the west of the Canary Islands, of a disc of tremendous size.

Let us however sum up and examine these various arguments which were listed by the Air Force (who, as I have said, end by ruling them all out). Here they are:-

A: Launching of a Surface-to-Air Missile or Surface-to-Surface Missile.

Textually, the Air Force report says: "A missile fired from a submarine, in the darkness of night, causes effects similar to those which we have been studying here in this case, but it is unquestionable that those effects would not be on such a scale as

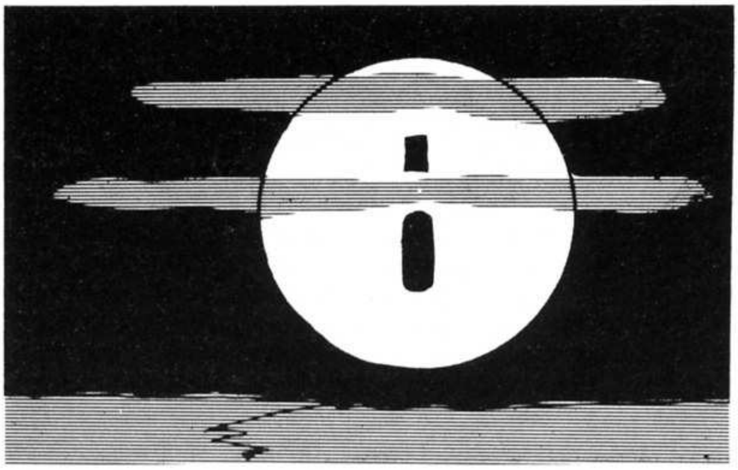


Figure 4: Presumably expanding phenomenon before setting down. This was unexplained sketch which was presented as Annex IV.

this, nor would they last for so long after the firing of the missile."

"Looking at the matter from another angle, since there is at present no state of war here, any nation desiring to carry out this sort of practice in the vicinity of our Canary Islands archipelago would doubtless have been acting with the consent and authorization of our Government, or, at least, with its knowledge. On the other hand, it would have been a very bad choice of zone, owing the the density of the civilian air traffic existing there, with the consequent degree of risk. For all these reasons we must rule out this hypothesis."

And the examination continues:

B: What was seen was a spectacular reflection of the light of the Sun inasmuch as it was not long after (70 minutes) the recent Sunset.

"In Annex VII[1] the radius, "R", of the circle corresponding to parallel 39° in terms of the Earth, is calculated, as well as the Longitude, and thus, the distance "travelled" by it in 70 minutes. This enables us determine the height "h", at point "B", of the last solar beam. This penetrates into the Ionosphere but leaves the Troposphere and the Stratosphere in darkness. In the Ionosphere the air is so rarefied that the reflection of a beam of sunlight is impossible, although the ionization of O and N *is* possible, but this point is studied in section "D".

"Furthermore, in the event that the reflection of a beam of sunlight were possible, this would only have been a momentary phenomenon and perhaps a moving one, in view of the velocity of 1,703 km. at which a point on that Parallel travels, due to the rotation of the Earth. For the phenomenon to have remained stationary for the space of 20 to 30 minutes we would have to suppose that the rotation of the Earth had been suspended for this period of time."

As we see, the Air Force report could not be more exhaustive and more fully documented.

C: They witnessed the fall of a Meteorite.

In this chapter, the Air Force files says, *inter alia*:-

"The entry of a meteorite into our atmosphere causes the latter to become incandescent through friction, and, consequently, becomes visible. For such a meteorite to reach the surface of the Earth it has to be of sufficiently large size, as otherwise it would have been turned to vapour before it got there. If the meteorite fell into the sea it is to be assumed that an explosion would result, not only because of the high velocity of the meteorite, but also because, it being incandescent, its sudden cooling by the water of the sea would cause such an explosion, with the following effects: a wave surge, luminosity, columns of water vapour, etc. In the darkness of the night, and at the distance calculated in Annex No. II[2] only the luminous phenomena caused by it would be observed – both its descent and its explosion – but both of these would last only the briefest space of time owing to its velocity, and to the fact that, if not vapourized by the impact, it would go straight to the bottom of the sea. At the very most, therefore, the phenomenon would be visible for a few minutes, but never for two hours."

Moreover, concludes the Report: "Only an imaginary observer located right at the point of impact would observe the meteorite as being perfectly circular; in which case naturally there could be no question of taking any subsequent statement from the witness! In view of this analysis of the situation, we must also reject this hypothesis."

D: What was witnessed was a Phenomenon resembling a Polar Aurora.

In this section, the Air Force make a complicated scientific analysis, which would be too lengthy for me

* *See comment at end of article – EDITOR.*

to reproduce here. Let us therefore just note the final paragraph of that analysis:-

"The Earth's magnetic field diverts the radiations towards the Poles, and when these radiations pass through the Ionosphere they meet the ionized gases which, like a gigantic "Neon" tube, produce a glow, thus creating the famous Polar Aurorae. This is the reason why this beautiful spectacle is only visible in very high latitudes on our globe. And this is a powerful reason for the impossibility that phenomena of this type could be seen in the latitudes with which we are concerned in this case."

E: The Eyewitnesses observed a Nuclear Explosion in the Ionosphere.

The possibilities in favour of this final hypothesis are described as being even more remote, seeing that any sort of atomic explosion – and in the vicinity of the Canary Islands – would have had catastrophic results.

Discussing this theory, the Report says:

"An explosion of this type would produce a light comparable to the light of the Sun. The spectacle would have resembled the Sun rising in the West, with orange, red, or yellow colourations following upon a few seconds of the most vivid light. And all the eyewitnesses in this case are in total agreement that the light seen by them, although vivid, remained white for the whole time, even when its intensity was

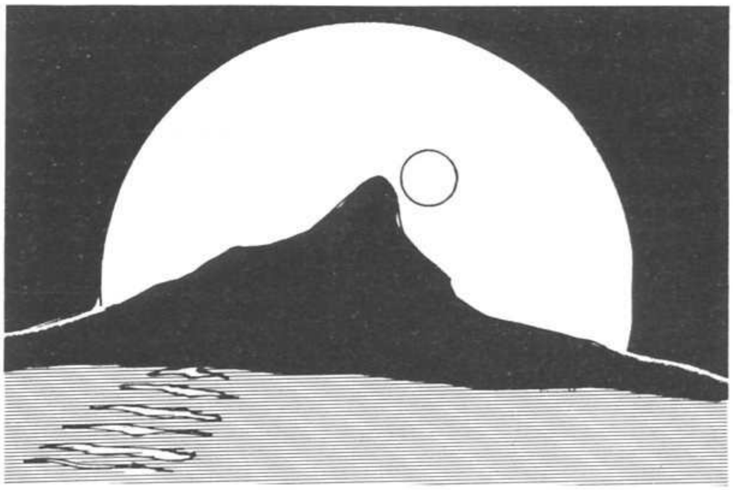


Figure 5: The phenomenon as seen from Guia, Eastern coast of Grand Canary – Annex VI

diminishing. They also are in agreement that the light was not dazzling, and that it was pale, like the colour of neon gas."

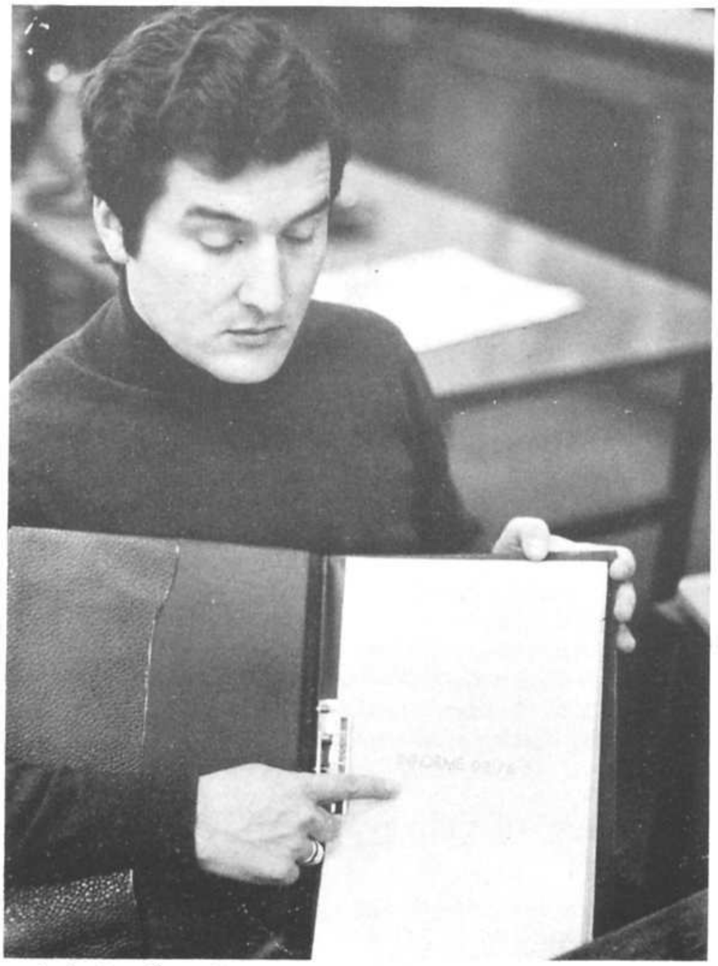
The Air Force Reporting Judge also analyzes various other possible explanations, such as sonde balloons, after-burners of jet aircraft, St. Elmo's Fire, etc., but all of them are fundamentally inadequate to account for what the General and the other military personnel had observed.

The Reporting Judge prudently abstains from pronouncing any opinion as to the nature of the UFO, though he does say, textually, in the course of his conclusions:

"If we study jointly the three reports issued up to now, Nos. 1/75, 1/76, and 2/76[3] we would have to face seriously the necessity of having to consider the possibility of accepting the hypothesis that a craft of unknown origin and driven by an energy likewise unknown is operating freely in the skies above the Canary Islands."[4]

That then, in brief synthesis, is the gist of this new official Spanish Air Force Report dated November 1976.

After examination of these concrete proofs, one asks oneself: what other arguments can still be produced against the existence of the UFOs?



J. J. Benítez shows one of the Spanish Air Force offical files, "Report No. 02/76"

Notes

1. Not sent to FSR
2. Not sent to FSR
3. The judge is here referring to three other official files on UFOs, writes Sr. Benítez.
4. My emphasis – G.C.

Comments by Charles Bowen

1. Senor Benítez writes that "... all the possible explanations" are dealt with in the Spanish Air Force document. Nevertheless I can see no mention of the possibility that the phenomenon could have been a sighting of our old friend the "Upper Atmosphere Barium Cloud Experiment." Perhaps someone who has access to such data could run a check for us that there were no rocket launchings near, or within sight of, the Canary Islands on November 19, 1976.

2. All said and done, however, this incident should be of considerable interest to our contributor in the Soviet Union, V. V. Rubtsov, who recently sent FSR a piece entitled *Scientists observe phenomenon over South Ural, Russia* in which was described the observation of a similar manifestation.

"FLOATING" ENTITY AT REDDISH

David Rees

David, who prepared this report especially for UFOIN and FSR, was co-founder with Jenny Randles of the Northern UFO Network in 1973. He now acts as news editor for the associations monthly publication Northern UFO News. He also organises his own group in the Stockport area, known as MAPIT (Manchester Aerial Phenomena Investigation Team) and is editor of their popular newsletter 'SKYWATCH'.

Data: late August 1976 North Reddish, Stockport, Greater Manchester CE3 A level A.

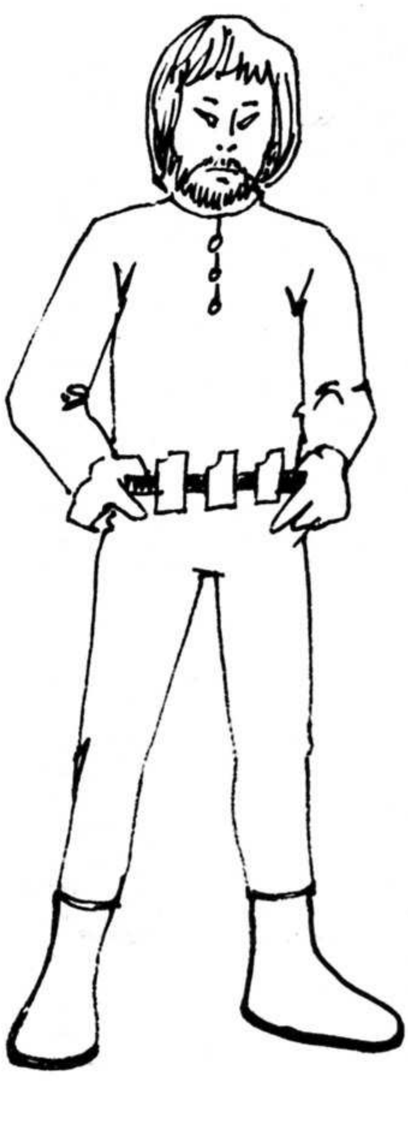
MY attention was drawn to this case in February 1978 (18 months after its occurrence). It came in the wake of intense media publicity throughout the town of Stcokport following the general release of the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* in Britain. The date of the events is significant because it pre-dates the CE3 experiences in other parts of Britain that were to strike during the period November 1976 to May 1977. As will be seen there are many parallels, and as the parents of the children involved attest to the story being told *at* the time we have confirmation that this was not purely based upon publicity for these other incidents.

The area involved, North Reddish, is a district of Stockport which is heavily urbanised, with quite a bit of industry. It is close to the borders with the city of Manchester. The children involved were playing on an area of waste ground just off Longford Road West. To their left was an old railway line, beyond which was the club house for a golf course. To their right was housing. Before them was a new primary school and a small reservoir.[1] The OS Reference of the site is SJ 888945.

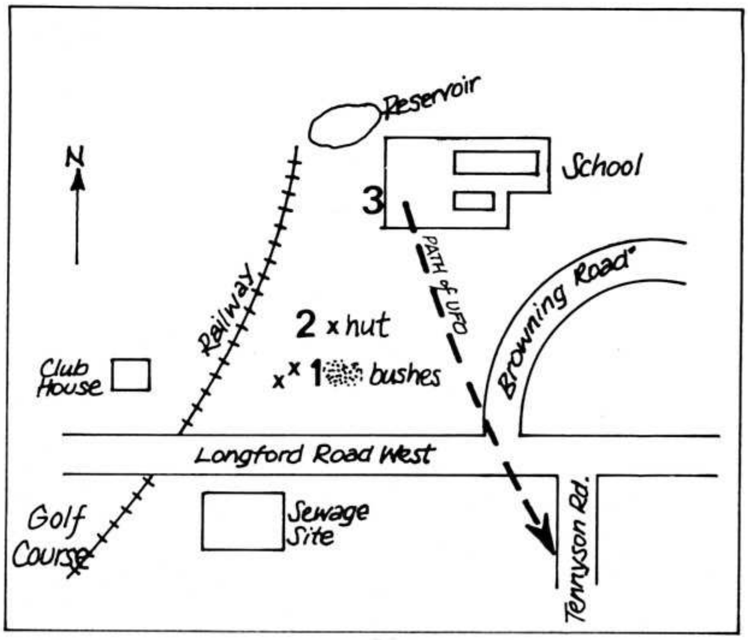
Three children were involved in the events, two of whom are twins who, at the time, were ten years old. Their parents have requested no publicity so we shall refer to them as Susan and John Harris. The other boy, whom we shall call Paul Smith, was refused permission to talk by his parents.

We are certain that the events took place during the last two weeks in August, when the children were on summer holiday from school. The time was between 12 noon and 1.00 p.m.

The children were playing on the waste ground, around a hut which had been constructed for them by a neighbour. Susan was tired and thirsty so she went into the hut to make herself and the boys some orange drinks. The boys remained outside playing by some bushes. Suddenly the boys saw a flash of silver pass before their eyes, and heard a crackling noise coming from the direction of the bush. Looking in that direction they saw a strange figure emerge from within the bush. He was wearing a silverish one-piece suit, seemed human in appearance but had a short grey beard and long yellowish hair.



Our artist's impression of the "Man" based on the children's sketches. Note facial features reminiscent of the Winchester "occupnat;" also the one-piece suit and pouches in which he deposited his collection of soil samples.



Location of the sightings in the order 1, 2 and 3

The boys stood aghast because he was floating about six inches off the ground!

The figure was only visible for a few seconds, and then it just vanished. John says: "It was like a light-bulb being switched off; one minute he was there, the next he was gone." Meanwhile Susan was in the shed totally unaware of all this.

As she completed the drinks she heard a strange rustling sound. Looking up out of the window she found herself staring face to face with a strange man who was not more than a few feet away. He was behind the boys, so out of their immediate sight, for they were still looking towards the bush.

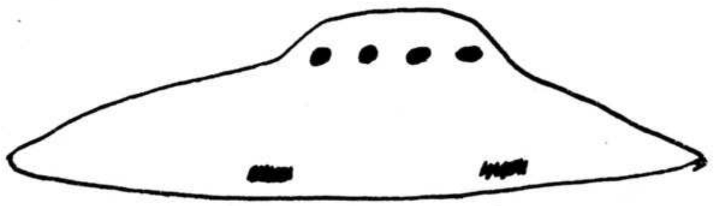
Susan did not know this man, so she stared back at him. Then he looked away from her and took small hand shovel from the belt he wore around his waist. He proceeded to stoop down and dig up small bits of soil, pouring each shovel full into a see-through kind of plastic bag. There were several of these out around his waistband. By now she was getting frightened, as she had no idea who this man was, or what he was doing – and he did look a little odd. So she yelled out instinctively to the boys. As soon as she did this the man vanished into thin air. When the boys turned round he was not to be seen. Again the sighting had been for no more than seconds.

Susan came out of the shed and told the boys what she had seen. It quickly became apparant that she was describing exactly the same man as they had seen.

In height he was similar to Susan and John's father (five feet nine inches). His complexion was very pale, and his eyes were long and narrow and slanted a bit "like a cat's" (John's description). The silvery suit was like a "track-suit" and seemed to be elasticated at the bottom. There were four or five buttons running down the middle of the chest at the top. The hands were covered with silvery gloves and the footwear consisted of boots with thick black soles on them.

Unafraid, the children decided to look to see if they could find him again. They walked forward a few yards towards the fence surrounding the school and they say that in a few moments spotted him again. He was stooped down by the fence, seemingly collecting more samples. He seemed unaware of the children, and continued for a few moments this time – although they remained some yards away. Then he disappeared again, only this time John and Susan said that he seemed to "go down into the ground and just vanish".

The children now walked towards the spot where he had been and saw an object rising slowly from the ground, apparantly within the playground of the school. It was a medium-sized object shaped like a gently curved disc with a more or less flat bottom. It was silver but had four dark holes (windows?) at the top in a row, and a couple of dark blotches on the bottom in the middle. It rose slowly and then moved horizontally heading South South East to disappear in the direction of Tennyson Road, still quite low.



The UFO, as drawn by the witnesses

The children ran home and told Susan and John's parents. They saw that they were very frightened and upset, and whilst remaining sceptical, felt sure that they had had something happen to them. Both remained nervous, and refused to go out alone at night for some while afterwards, and John refused to go out and play at all for a couple of days. Later they suffered some ridicule from friends whom they had told of their experience, so they decided that they would not talk about it in future, and were happy to remain anonymous when they talked with investigators. Mr. and Mrs. Harris say that the twins are truthful and honest, and never before or since have they claimed anything so unusual. They do not know what to think. They find it hard to accept the story, but they also find it hard to believe that the children simply made it up.

It is unfortunate that we found out about this case after so long a delay, since any possible traces had long since disappeared. MAPIT investigator Pauline Knebel visited the children on February 10, 1978, and made out a preliminary report. On the basis of this I went to conduct a full investigation and take site photographs. This was productive because it offered a possible explanation for one of the most fantastic parts of the story – the figure apparently disappearing into the ground where it stood. At this very point the fence is broken (it is not possible to know if it was broken in August

First appearance was here — near the bushes.

1976). There is also a hollow dipping down to the fence and considerable undulating ground between there and where the children stood (a hundred or so yards away). It is quite conceivable that they mistook his ducking down into the hollow to go under the fence and so into the playground (where the UFO was seen) as the figure "going into the ground."

I wrote to the Ministry of Defence to see if they had received any relevant reports for that date, but simply received a curt, non-informative reply.[2] I checked with the golf course and other places in the area but found no corroborating witnesses.

The only CE 3 reports in the area that I could recall were in 1963[3] when a figure in a one piece suit was seen in Castleton, Derbyshire (15 miles south), and in May 1976 when Mrs. Kent saw a silver suited figure atop a slagheap in Higher Fold, near Leigh, Greater Manchester (15 miles west)[4].

The case does bear some similarities with other recent UK cases. Note particularly the likeness of the figure with the one seen in the Winchester landing[5]. In fact when this story broke three months *after* the children had told their story it made Mr. and Mrs. Harris think very seriously about what their children did see. Note also that the relationship of UFOs to schools was also apparent during that 1976-77 wave[6].

The story contains elements of comparison with other CE 3 stories, and it seems quite believable in that context. I was very impressed with the Harris family for their sincerity and helpfulness, and I am keeping in touch should anything else occur. What fascinates me is why so many children have recently been witness to UFO experiences[7]. Also in this instance we have a highly built-up residential area and yet there were just these children as eyewitnesses. They have apparently stuck to their story without addition or alteration since they first told it to Mr. and Mrs. Harris. Is it that the children are "tuned in" to see something — and if so what?

Third appearance here: stance as adopted by "man"

References

1. "While typing up this report for FSR," writes Jenny Randles, "I realised that I know this area very well as my cousin lives in Tennyson Road (featured later in the report). The area is densely populated. The rail line is little used, and only for freight. Very close to the site there is a sewage release area. This appears to be another favourite haunting ground for UFOs (like schools and cemeteries). David Rees tells me that nocturnal lights were viewed over this sewage works some months after the childrens encounter."
2. See Randles, J. "The Ministry of Defence Approach" FSR Vol. 24, No. 3, p.27.
3. See Oliver, N. "Blue John," *Gemini* Jul-Sept 1972, p. 9
4. See Randles, J. "News round-up from Northern England" FSR Vol. 12, No. 3, p. 27.
5. See Harris, L. "UFO and silver suited entity near Winchester" FSR Vol. 22, No. 5, p. 3
6. See Pugh, Randall, J. "Broadhaven School Report" FSR Vol. 23, No. 1, p. 3.
7. I have written an article on this aspect entitled "Teenage Observers — a clue?" published in the Spring 1978 issue of *Earthlink* (publication of the Essex UFO Study group of 16 Raydons Road, Dagenham, Essex. RM9 5JR)

I would be interested in corresponding with anyone who wishes to look into this whole area of child observers. Write: c/o 92 Hillcrest Road, Offerton, Stockport, Greater Manchester. SK2 5SE.

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UFO WITH HYPNOTIC EFFECTS

Christine Pickett & Ron Benson

Our contributors are investigators working with the large North Eastern group CHRYSIS which is associated with NUFON. This article was prepared from their report to UFOIN by Christine's husband, Keith, who is also a group member.

Data: May 29 1977 Darlington, Co. Durham CE 1 Psycho Level A

THIS event forms part of the great British wave of 1977. It came to light when the witness saw a TV programme about the Stonehenge movie film (see FSR Vol. 24, No. 4). The orange/yellow spherical objects in the film were, apparantly, somewhat similar to the thing, or things, that she had seen. Consequently she decided to report the incident as a possible UFO.

The witness is a retired civil servant (aged 60 at time of interview in November 1978). She lives in Darlington, Co. Durham, is an active member of the local church community, and is very articulate. She often helps the old age pensioners in the locality, and, not wishing to alarm these folk unduly she has requested anonymity. Her name and address are on file at the NUFON/UFOIN HQ in Nottingham. We shall call her Vera.

It was a bank holiday, bright and clear. Being tired, Vera had gone to bed at 8.00 p.m. and fallen asleep almost immediately. At about 11.00 p.m. she was awakened by a blinding ball of light in the sky which was shining in through the curtains of her open window. She watched it for a few seconds and then it "went out." It had appeared at quite a high elevation, seemingly above the administrative buildings of the Department of Education and Science about fifty yards away. Being a bank holiday weekend this building would have been shut for a period of 3/4 days.

She lay watching for a few minutes and then three "stars" – still a yellowy colour – appeared in the same area of sky, but a little lower down. They came one after the other with a brief gap. Then suddenly all three merged into one with a blinding flash that poured light into the room. Scintillations or pulses of light appeared from either side of the object at random intervals and then all at once it disappeared again. It stayed for no longer than a minute or two.

This process continued an unremembered number of times – always several moments pause in between. Each time the yellow ball (apparantly similar to the sun in colour and size) was lower in the sky, until it appeared to be almost on the DES building's roof.

Vera describes a curious sensation whilst this was happening. She says she felt the thing was alive and that it was "pulling" her. She became more transfixed each time it appeared, "rivetted" by the sight of it. Thinking back on it now she says it must have been like a kind of hypnotic trance. As the power increased she became very frightened. She felt that it was going to drag her straight through the window.

Finally she summoned up her willpower, got out of bed, and rushed to the curtains to block out the light. Immediately the hold was released. Exhausted she went back to bed and fell asleep almost immediately. She was amazed to see the clock as she got back into bed. It showed 12.45 a.m., so almost two hours had elapsed. She says that the experience seemed to be nothing like that duration.

Obviously one can interpret this quite simply as a dream, but the witness is adamant that she was awake, and clearly recalls the various sensations involved. It may have been a hypnogogic hallucination – a very "real" waking dream on the borders between sleep and wakefulness. Even if this is so, it is an interesting example of what is often reported as a UFO experience.

Presuming it to be a real event, which we find no reason to doubt, it does compare well with other

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Artwork: Pauline Bowen

UFO incidents where a kind of hypnotic indoctrination has been performed. In this respect it is interesting to note that Vera claims to have had several psychic experiences since childhood. Although she was not very willing to talk about them, she does say that she has had several ESP experiences such as knowing intuitively who was on the ringing telephone.

Our interview convinced us that the witness was sincere and reliable, and certainly not a lady prone to fancies. We must therefore conclude that this was a genuine close encounter experience.

WORLD ROUND-UP

Continued from page 5

Dr. Moretti said. 'There were rows of instruments and control panels. Inside, there were about 10 alien beings like the one he had met outside. All the monsters looked alike and they had fingers like ours.'

"Fortunato said that although they spoke no Italian or any other human language, they communicated with him by 'light signals and sounds' transmitted through a helmet placed on his head. The helmet was so tight it gave him a headache.

"Fortunato does not need hypnosis to recall what happened when the encounter was over. 'The next thing I knew, I was standing in the dark, feeling groggy. I picked up my flashlight from the ground and ran toward my car. 'As I ran, I saw a great blinding light rise up. It was a UFO. I only saw that it was flat, triangular and white. It gave off so much light and heat that I couldn't see it clearly.'

"Describing his second meeting, Fortunato said: 'I couldn't keep my eyes open. The car drove itself.

" 'The car stopped suddenly, the door opened by itself and I saw the same lights as I saw before. I felt as if someone was calling me. After that I don't remember what happened.'

"Fortunato's boss Gianfanco Tutti was present at the second hypnosis session. He said: 'I don't believe in creatures from other planets but I do believe Fortunato. If he wanted publicity he would have found other ways of getting it.

" 'When he described the creatures, he also said they told him that the next time they come they'll take him away.' "

Credit: **Peter A. Hill** of Edinburgh

Spain
Another huge UFO over the Canaries

In a letter dated Wednesday March 7, 1979, FSR reader, contributor and correspondent **Sir Russell Guérard-y-Holmes** wrote to say that he had attended a lecture on UFOs at the college "Naestra Señora del Recuerdo" in Madrid, given by Sr. Juan José Benitez, an Editor of the newspaper *La Gaceta del Norte* of Bilbao, and Editor-in-Chief of *La Hoja del Lunes,* both serious and respected organs of the press. Sr. Guérard, states that during his talk Sr. Benitez said two things that might interest readers of FSR. They are:

1. On the night of March 5/6. 1979, a gigantic UFO was seen in the sky above the Canary Islands (Sr. Guérard thinks Sr. Benitez says it was over Lanzarote). An important fact is that this object was seen by "thousands" of people, and by pure chance Sr. Benitez was able to interview the commander of an Iberian Airline 'plane which, at the precise moment, was making a scheduled flight between the Canary Islands and the Spanish mainland (Bilbao). The conversation with the commander (pilot) was taped. The pilot said a) that up to that time he had been sceptical about UFOs, and b) that he and the rest of his Iberia crew calculate that the UFO had a diameter of 200 miles!

2. Sr. Benítez then gave the account of a sighting from a training ship on November 19, 1976, which (by chance) appears in this issue of FSR (see page 24). Accordingly we will not repeat that here, other than to say that officers and sailor-students *calculated* the object to be at an altitude of 60000 ft. Another interesting point is that Sr. Benítez told of his discovery that a Spanish Air Force 'plane was in the air at the time. The pilot was none other than the Commanding General of the Canary Islands Area, and Sr. Benítez had finally managed to interview him. The General had told the journalist that they flew *round* the object which he and other officers on board estimated to be the size of the Canary Island mountain "Teide." The crew of the training ship *Elcano* also used the "Teide" comparison, only that they thought the UFO might be larger than the mountain!

MAIL BAG

Continued from page 23

by this knowledge; and, or, that the legend has some basis in fact.

Finally, the witness describes, "an increasing rumble as if it was a flying mechanism." In Chekhov's time noisy flying mechanisms were not current and instead he embellishes his story with the natural sound of the wind.

Yours Sincerely,

A. B. Sidle,
67, Monkhams Drive,
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